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Commonwealth conference in Ottawa

In quantitative terms Commonwealth conferences are still substantial international gatherings. The Prime Ministers of 32 Commonwealth countries, heading top-level delegations ranging in size from Western Samoa's three-man party to Whitehall's team of sixty, still represent a quarter of Mankind all over the world.

More than 800 journalists were in Ottawa for the conference, and what was the outcome? A succession of noble demands, declarations of war on want, condemnations of nuclear tests and racialism, fresh commentaries on white minority rule in South Africa and Rhodesia, both of which have been the Commonwealth's major problems for the better part of a decade.

The communiqué could be characterised as a watered-down consensus, yet on the other hand, given the nature of this informal international grouping of independent states, joint action was out of the question from the start.

Nevertheless, two aspects of the Ottawa conference are worthy of note in comparison with past conferences in Singapore, Lagos and London.

For one, despite heated debate on many issues moderation was maintained and a genuine exchange of views rendered possible. There were no confrontations of the kind that threaten to drive a wedge between races and continents. This is attributed by some to growing political maturity, by others to the realisation that in the final analysis shouting and confrontation are counter-productive.

What is more, Britain no longer stood in the dock, pilloried by the opinion of its grown-up scions. This time it even gained their support in respect of Rhodesia, for which Britain retains responsibility.

An era of decolonialisation has come to a close. For more than a decade the Commonwealth has no longer been British. Britain is no longer the hub of what used to be the Empire.

Whitehall has drawn its conclusions from the redistribution of power in the world. So have the African, Caribbean, Pacific and Asian Commonwealth countries who are likewise coming to terms with the European Common Market.

Since 1948 the volume of trade within the Commonwealth has doubled. Over the same period trade with non-Commonwealth countries has increased by 850 per cent – and it is not merely that Britain has neglected the Commonwealth or become more European.

Gatt and free-market trends in international trading ties have changed the face of the world. Britain is no longer the leading industrial power, processing the raw materials provided by its overseas possessions. Commonwealth countries, even in the process of industrialisation, are continually on the lookout for major markets of their own.

Trade links within the Commonwealth no longer converge on London. They connect directly with each other, and above all with Washington, Moscow, Peking, Tokyo and Brussels, where decisions affecting the world as a whole are reached.

The Commonwealth is overshadowed by these other world capitals. Some of its members hope that by clubbing together they will be able to offset undue influence from without. Others, like Britain, take the realities of the new power position into account.

At Ottawa the Commonwealth Premiers realised that the current harmony between the four superpowers is a mixed blessing for medium-sized and smaller countries.

As an African delegate put it, elephants trample on the grass when fighting, to which an Asian delegate added that they wreak even more havoc when flirting or making love.

Are Commonwealth summits worth the money? The cost in terms of hard cash – about two million dollars – is a minor consideration, one experienced Prime Minister commented. The cost in political terms was what mattered.

Canada certainly emerges from the superb preparation, organisation and running of the conference with flying colours. The oppressive nearness of the United States and the French Canadians, who are not interested in either the Anglo-Saxon Commonwealth or the Queen, are at the back of the as yet somewhat uncertain Canadian search for a new identity.

Canada would like to be a friend and mediator for all races – black, brown and yellow. Contrary to expectations, the Commonwealth heads of government, even including Britain's cynical Mr Heath, found the nine days of continual contacts behind closed doors, either in larger gatherings or in private consultations, useful. They appeared convinced that the Commonwealth is not yet played out, though it remains to be seen what the tenor of the next Commonwealth conference in two years' time will be.

For the outside world the spectacle of a summit encounter of this kind, without parallel in any way, must remain something of a mystery. The Press is entirely dependent on information supplied at second hand. The meagre reports of the conference spokesman hardly indicate who has spoken on which topic. Further but necessarily one-sided information is forthcoming only from the press officers of individual delegations.

There is no other international forum of similar make-up at which the most varied people from all corners of the globe meet at regular intervals for frank discussions, an attempt to understand the other side's point of view and endeavours to bring about constructive solutions of outstanding problems.

The United Nations and the non-aligned summits at Belgrade, Lusaka and Algiers confer within a more formal framework, formulate their official viewpoints and vote.

The future of the Commonwealth may be uncertain but there can be no doubt that it still benefits from the common heritage of a single language, similar political concepts and — for this

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Hungarian delegation in Bonn

Günter van Well (right) of the Bonn Foreign Ministry welcoming Hungarian deputy Foreign Minister Janos Nagy in Bonn. The Hungarian delegation is in Bonn to negotiate the establishment of diplomatic relations between Budapest and the Federal Republic. (Photo: dpa)

Problems in Prague

State Secretary Paul Frank of the Bonn Foreign Office bore witness to a fair degree of scepticism on being asked, prior to his latest Prague visit, whether he felt the remaining differences between this country and Czechoslovakia might be settled in one bout of negotiations.

It was, when all is said and done, no coincidence that the exchange of notes on humanitarian issues scheduled to accompany the treaty between Bonn and Prague on the establishment of full diplomatic relations proved impossible to complete to the satisfaction of both parties when the draft of the treaty itself was approved in June.

The main obstacle is, once again, the Berlin Question. The exchange of notes on humanitarian issues is intended not only to enable Czech citizens of German extraction to emigrate to this country but also to facilitate family ties in the other direction, providing for exceptions in exceptional cases.

Prague objects to extending this part of the agreement to West Berlin and would appear to be calling into question Bonn's right to represent West Berliners in consular matters.

As regards the right of consular representation, this ploy is the Eastern Bloc ruse of old of trying to undermine the right to represent West Berlin and its people abroad granted to Bonn by the Four Powers in the quadripartite agreement of 3 September 1971.

The Four Powers alone are entitled to grant this facility and any attempt to undermine it must be steadfastly resisted.

As regards the formal incorporation of West Berlin in the exchange of notes on humanitarian issues, study of the treaty draft reveals an anomaly. In an ancillary agreement between the Bonn and Prague Foreign Ministries the legal consequences of the invalidation of the 1938 Munich Agreement are extended to West Berlin, as are the provisions of Article Five regarding projected agreements on scientific, technological, cultural and sporting cooperation. There is, however, no express reference to the incorporation of Berlin in the exchange of notes on humanitarian issues.

Was this omission the result of thoughtlessness or were the negotiators prepared to disregard this problem in drafting the treaty in the hope of reaching a satisfactory conclusion at some later date?

The answer to this question will come to light as pressure is brought to bear on Bonn in advance of Chancellor Brandt's visit to the Czech capital on 5 September in the course of which the treaty was to be signed. (Der Tagesspiegel, 11 August 1973)

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Russia eyes Indian Ocean covetously

Süddeutsche Zeitung

The aim of tempestuous dreams of conquest, Karl Marx once noted, was to open up a pathway into Asia along which, when the occasion arose, a Russian army might march into India.

After the Russian Revolution the Soviet government was quick to forge diplomatic links with Afghanistan, Persia and Turkey. As early as 1919 Foreign Minister Grigori Chicherin reiterated the old adage that the future of Russia was to be found in Asia.

In independent India Stalin supported the Communists and their attempts to assume power by what at times were violent means.

Stalin's use of force being to no avail, Khrushchev went in for diplomatic travels, hoping to gain ground by means of acknowledging non-alignment by the terms of reference of coexistence and providing economic aid.

The current Soviet leadership have thought up a new instrument of policy in Asia: an Asia security system along lines similar to those of the European security conference.

By dint of perseverance the Soviet Union has come a little closer towards the realisation of this project of late.

According to Moscow the aim is for all Asian countries to join forces in safeguarding the peace in Asia by means of renunciation of the use or threat of force, recognition of existing frontiers, non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other countries and the evolution of all-round cooperation on the basis of complete equality and mutual benefit.

A number of Asia countries have already expressed cautious interest in some such system of collective security. Japan, with Prime Minister Tanaka Moscow-bound this autumn, has announced via Foreign Minister Chira that it will consider the Soviet proposal from a realistic point of view.

Following Soviet Premier Kosygin's latest visit to Persia this spring the idea of a security system was incorporated in the final communiqué. Malaysia, Australia and New Zealand have likewise demonstrated various degrees of readiness to gather round the conference table.

An Asian peace conference recently held in Dacca and attended by representatives of more than two dozen countries and organisations declared its unconditional approval of the idea, adding that the friendship pacts between the Soviet Union and India and the Soviet Union and Iraq are a model of the form future agreements in Asia should take.

Here, of course, is the snag. How does one define the concept of security? It is self-evident that China, which has territorial claims on the Soviet Union and is, moreover, no prepared to concede its rival the status of an Asian country, will consent neither to international sanctioning of all existing frontiers nor to the favouritism shown by Moscow towards India.

It is no coincidence that the Chinese Foreign Minister paid visits to Pakistan and Iran not very long ago, both countries affected by Soviet policy in Asia, alarmed by the course of events and anxious to reactivate the Cento Pact.

Premier Hoveyda of Iran, who is to visit Moscow in mid-August, is worried by the cooperation between India and Iraq, both linked with the Soviet Union. For some time Indian air force officers have been training Iraqi pilots on Soviet MIG fighters. Over the next decade Iraq is to supply India with 112 million tonnes of crude oil.

India in its turn is lamenting in Moscow that Persia is being armed to the teeth by the United States. Indian Defence Minister Jagjivan Ram visited the Soviet Union in early July at the invitation of his Soviet opposite number, Marshal Gretchko, in order to discuss "India's security and defence requirements" and "problems relating to the Indian Ocean".

Shankal Dayal Sharma, leader of the Indian Congress Party, who was also visiting the Soviet capital in connection with the world congress of peace forces planned to be held this autumn, described the billions of dollars the Shah is spending on arms purchases in the United States as a threat to relations between countries bordering the Indian Ocean.

Soviet backing in the form of the then friendship pact enabled India in the winter of 1971 to defeat Pakistan and utilise the struggle for independence of Bangla Desh to reduce its erstwhile rival on the Indian sub-continent to third-rate status.

This state of affairs is of continuing importance because of the light it sheds on the expectations Moscow has, in the long term, of an Asian security system.

Always assuming that the Soviet Union and the United States refrain from direct intervention by their respective pacts in the tug-of-war between regional forces developments to the south of Soviet frontiers cannot fail in the long run to proceed according to Soviet requirements.

Take, for instance, the overthrow of the monarchy in Afghanistan. The new strong man, Mohammed Daoud, established as the cornerstone of his policy as Prime Minister from 1953 to 1963 support for Pashtuni separtism.

To overthrow the monarchy he made use of an army thet he himself, although personally a conservative autocrat, had, from 1955 on, armed and trained by the Soviet Union.

Once again Pakistan must fear that a neighbour with Soviet backing is out to help itself to another slice of Pakistani territory.

Western alliances in Asia, Cento and what is left of Seato, are coming in for harsh Soviet criticism. And in Asia there is no need to dismantle Soviet pacts in return for similar moves by the West. None exist.

Rudolph Chimelli

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 6 August 1973)

Tanaka and Nixon confer in Washington

Japanese Premier Kakuei Tanaka's Washington visit was the thirteenth Japanese-American summit since the end of the war. Initially it seemed likely to be no more than a routine visit, but it was soon obvious that there was a world of difference between this and earlier consultations.

In his speech on arriving in the US capital Premier Tanaka declared his intention of discussing with the President not only Pacific but also Atlantic issues.

President Nixon encouraged his visitor with the comment that it was no longer a matter of talks between a senior and a junior partner. Japan and the United States, Mr Nixon stated, had now entered an era of new and equal partnership.

The final communiqué also confirmed that the two countries had now parted company with their purely bilateral Pacific ties and visualised their joint role as being within a larger framework.

"Relations between the two countries have increased international repercussions and thus represent a major contribution towards the establishment of peaceful relations all over the world," the communiqué notes.

To this extent Premier Tanaka's US visit represents a qualititavely new role for Japan in international affairs.

In other respects too the communiqué outlines future Japanese policy, particularly in relation to the United States. For the first time ever both statesmen affirmed the "fair division of responsibility" to which President Nixon had referred on previous occasions.

Generously interpreted, this concept could have far-reaching consequences for Japan. Tanaka and Nixon agreed to jointly contribute towards the "promotion of peace and security in the Korean peninsula" but Washington has already intimated on more than one occasion that it would welcome Japanese assistance in modernising South Korean armed forces.

Were Tokyo actually to supply Seoul with military equipment, even though deliveries might not be armaments in the strict sense of the word, Japan would have exceeded by far the framework of development aid and economic cooperation on which its policy has been based in the past.

This, then, would run counter to past Japanese policy; it would also undoubtedly be grist to the mill of powerful opposition forces at home who suspect Tokyo of being willing to embark on unconstitutional military expansion.

In the communiqué Premier Tanaka tried hard to forestall the impression that Japan might be prepared to shoulder a fair share of responsibility in Asia in the military sector.

The two men stress that the US-Japanese security pact is an important factor in the safeguarding of stability in Asia. But at the same time President Nixon stresses, due to no small extent to pressure brought to bear by the Japanese government, that the United States will continue to maintain an appropriate deterrent force in Asia.

Tokyo does not want and is not in a position to be more active militarily. It is no doubt why Mr Tanaka incorporated into the communiqué a mention of his positive interest in the Kissinger plan for a new Atlantic Charter.

What he also told the President, but did not have included in the communiqué, was that Japan would find it difficult to become a party to the charter as long as Tokyo was expected to make a major military contribution towards multilateral security policy in Asia.

Heinrich Werner

(Die Welt, 4 August 1973)

East Bloc keen to end swiftly security conference

At their two-day Crimean summit ending on 31 July the Party leaders of the Warsaw Pact countries and Outer Mongolia agreed on the desirability of bringing the European security conference to a successful conclusion by the end of this year.

In a press release on the conference issued by *Tass*, the Soviet news agency, it is emphasised that an early conclusion presupposes good will on the part of all concerned.

Communist Party leaders were also agreed that the conference should end with a meeting of heads of government in order to invest the greatest possible degree of political significance in the resolutions passed.

This view had already been outlined by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko at the Helsinki conference.

In the name of the socialist countries the Party leaders emphasised the need for an expansion of the zone of detente over the entire world. Political detente must be followed by a relaxation of military tension by means of contributions towards disarmament by all sides.

According to *Tass* the Eastern Bloc countries set great store by the MBFR talks that are scheduled to begin in October.

(Die Welt, 1 August 1973)

Test Ban Treaty ten years old

Frankfurter Rundschau

Is the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Moscow test ban treaty an occasion for celebration or regret? On 7 August in Geneva, where the disarmament conference paved the way for the test ban treaty, no one was prepared to commit himself.

Embarrassment was the hallmark of all the speeches delivered by chief delegates. The test ban treaty, ratified by more than one hundred countries, is the text-book example of a political initiative that has ground to a halt in mid-flight.

In terms of facts and figures the partial test ban treaty cannot be said to have been very effective in stemming the tide of the arms race. In 1963 the Soviet Union had roughly 100 ICBMs. It now has more than 1,500. The United States has evolved an entire new generation of more sophisticated nuclear devices.

When all nuclear stockpiles are added together there is the equivalent of fifteen tons of TNT in reserve for every man, woman and child in the world.

Between 1945 and 1963 roughly 500 nuclear tests were held. Over the past ten years there have not been many fewer (439). Despite the test ban treaty nuclear tests have been held more frequently than in the past. The only difference is that they are now held underground.

The ten-year-old treaty is thus more deserving of environmental conservation status than it is of being called a disarmament measure. Radioactivity released into the atmosphere had reached an alarming level in 1963. The level has since been considerably reduced.

But even this progress stands to go by the board if France and China hold tests of hydrogen devices of any size.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 8 August 1973)

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■ POLITICS

The Cabinet – the men and women who form the government

There is a relaxed atmosphere at present Cabinet meetings with longer but less disciplined discussions since there is no legislative business on the agenda at present and Chancellor Willy Brandt is not in favour of stern and strict leadership at any time. Brandt keeps the weekly Wednesday 17-man Cabinet talks on a long leash.

It is only when the situation threatens to get out of hand, maybe when a couple of the more fiery Cabinet members cross swords, forgetting the basic principle of the most economic application of available working hours, that the Chancellor intercedes. On such occasions he wastes little time with words and will suddenly launch in with: "Right, agreed."

According to the standing orders all Cabinet ministers are equal. However, to quote Orwell, some are more equal than others. The Cabinet has its strong men. They are the ones who beat the drum for Basic Law claiming that the Defence Minister is the commander of the armed forces while expenditure above and beyond original planning is the responsibility of the Finance Minister. A similary elevated special position is reserved for the Ministers of the Interior and Justice.

In this case the person and the office he holds cannot be separated. The fact that a man like Helmut Schmidt takes advantage of all the rights of an Finance Minister is only to be expected when one considers his intimate relationship with power.

With his speed and skill at speech-making and debate he frequently out-talks his colleagues in the Cabinet. His presence is seigneurial – which way have something to do with his dicey and frequently changing state of health.

Schmidt is supposed to be tired of office. At 54 has he still the ambition to replace Willy Brandt one day as Chancellor or are his eyes on the less gruelling post of Federal President?

This question is difficult to answer, and Schmidt is obviously still debating the choice with himself. Georg Leber is also supposed to have designs on the Villa Hammerschmidt. But all these calculations are made without considering one vital factor – Gustav Heinemann. Although 75 Heinemann seems to be inclined to apply for re-election in mid-1974 for another five-year term.

Georg Leber's important position in the Cabinet is partly an expression of his success at the Defence Ministry which he took over when Helmut Schmidt left it abruptly. At first Georg Leber was expected to be a stopgap but he has now found a firm footing. At government talks he adopts the role of mediator embodying sound reasoning with talents which make him the ideal middleman.

SPD Cabinet members use the familiar "du" form which gives Cabinet meetings an air of being gathering of old chums. This also helps to distance the SPD from their coalition partners of the FDP who call each other "Herr" even in private. There are strange mixtures in these relationships. Schmidt and Scheel call each other Helmut and Walter but use "Sie" instead of "du".

Schmidt and Ertl use the familiar form yet address each other as "Brother Josef" and "Brother Helmut". Such familiarities do not prevent bitter conflicts breaking out, sometimes over money and at others over ministerial demarcation disputes. At the moment various ministries are bitterly sending each other angry memos claiming that their responsabilities have been encroached upon. Often it proves difficult to pour oil on troubled waters at Cabinet meetings.

DEUTSCHE ZEITUNG
Christ und Welt

At Cabinet meetings the FDP appears to be a good assortment with the exception of Werner Maihofer, Minister without Portfolio, who at present leads a kind of shadowy existence.

As head of the Ministry of the Interior Hans Dietrich Genscher has the character of a multi-purpose minister. He is a powerful man with a voice to match.

Hermann Höcherl, the former Minister of Agriculture, was replaced by Josef Ertl, who ensured a continuation of Bavarian flamboyancy at government gatherings. He brings an air of cheekiness coupled with the slyness of the farmer when it comes to totting up figures. Such as high farm-produce prices.

As the new boy in the second Brandt-Scheel Cabinet Economic Affairs Minister Hans Friderichs benefits from the fact that as the former business affairs manager of the FDP in Bonn he knows his way around the Federal capital and is not regarded as an apprentice like many newcomers before him. His relationship with Finance Minister Helmut Schmidt is matter-of-fact and cool and so far has been sufficiently correct for people to say that there has been a fair degree of cooperation between the two of them.

As Vice-Chancellor Foreign Minister Walter Scheel is not prepared to let any of the SPD coalition partners steal his thunder. His party has discovered new self-confidence being embrassed by the Social Democrats and wooed by the CDU/CSU, so Scheel is able to fight off his rival, Egon Bahr.

Although he has been promoted from State Secretary to the Chancellery to Minister for Special Duties in the Chancellor's office he does not have considerable influence at Cabinet meetings. He must be fearing for his key role in German policy.

At the meeting with GDR Foreign Minister Otto Winzer in Helsinki Walter Scheel upstaged him. Bahr's contacts with East Berlin are now limited to meetings with GDR State Secretary Michael Kohl. The Chancellor's special adviser has not become "the German Kissinger".

Hans-Jochen Vogel is also tired of office after being disappointed at his lack of influence in the Cabinet. The head of the Housing Ministry cannot come to terms with the way he has been graded as a "junior" minister, and thus frustrated in his ambitions to reach the top.

Stars have no role to play in the Cabinet. This was made abundantly clear by the rise, triumph and fall of Professor Karl Schiller. In the Cabinet what counts is the contribution each minister makes to the prestige of the government and the success his department brings to government policies as a whole.

Horst Ehmke is also reckoned to be ready to lay down the burdens of office. His dual role at the head of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications plus Technology has not helped him get over his fall from grace as Minister to the Chancellery. Ehmke obviously did not hit it off with Willy Brandt at the Chancellery and created more destruction than coordination.

His present Ministry is a boudoir whereas the Palais Schaumburg was the tiller of State. Ehmke's mistake was that in this position he tried to be a politician rather than ensuring that the machinery of government was well oiled for the production of politics.

Ehmke's successor has proved the old adage from the Adenauer era that the Chancellery is operating the most efficiently the least it hits the headlines.

His successor, the former Berlin Senator Horst Grabert, has taken over as chief of the executive branch after some good practical experience as a State Secretary. He is a shy and reserved man.

Ehmke's zeal increased the number of officials at the Bonn nerve centre from 125 to four hundred, but Grabert would like to bring it back to a situation where it once again aids the Chancellor in his job of steering the ship of State with the least fuss through coordination of the ministries.

This means that ambitious departmental heads who only exercise minimal influence in their ministerial position are reigned in.

Egon Franke finds his department for Intra-German Affairs shrinking and thus he has become a peripheral figure in the Cabinet, while Education Minister Klaus von Dohnanyi and Health and Family Affairs Minister Katharina Focke are able to create quite a stir at Cabinet meetings when they throw their weight around.

The same could be said of Erhard Eppler's ideologically zealous attempts to overstep his mark as head of the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and steer the Cabinet to the left.

Höpker/Pressebüro Gayda

(Deutsche Zeitung, 10 August 1973)

Commonwealth conference

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generation at least – similar educational and university traditions.

The tragedy of Britain's decline as a world power is that Britain bequeathed to its former colonies and dominions parliamentary institutions that may not have been to the liking of all but without exception have opposed Whitehall on crucial issues. A new leaf may have been turned over in Ottawa.

Economic, geographic, religious and racial differences that rend this international community upheld by no formal obligations cannot be bridged and may well be intensified by the ideological differences that have emerged between Australasian "Socialism" and British and Singapore "Conservatism."

Were the Commonwealth not to exist, no one might hit on the idea of inventing it. Yet its disappearance would not be to the advantage of an imperfect world.

Roland Hill

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 13 August 1973)

SPD and FDP seek to iron out domestic policy differences

No less a man than Chancellor Willy Brandt has now stated categorically that after the summer recess in Bonn domestic affairs will take priority.

German and East Bloc policies have been set on the rails built by the SPD/FDP government and it can now be left to diplomats to take over the controls of this train. Now the SPD/FDP coalition must prove it can put domestic and social welfare policies on the right lines as well.

This is all the more essential since there is wrangling within the Coalition, particularly from the FDP benches, about the lack of direction given to domestic policies by the government.

The fact that the CDU/CSU, despite having done nothing, is now ahead of the SPD in opinion polls for the first time since the last general election is food for thought for the Social Democrats.

There can be no delaying important domestic reforms. The government has to think of forthcoming provincial assembly elections next year at which it hopes to break the CDU/CSU majority in the Federal states.

Recently the government has been thinking along the lines of raising tax-free allowances *before* fiscal reform comes into effect as a relief for the burden of taxation on smaller incomes as a result of inflation. This measure has been suggested with the Federal state elections in mind.

At any rate it would be deceiving the taxpayer if the proportional rate of taxation were raised in 1976 from nineteen to 22 per cent, thus eating away part of the benefits granted by raising the tax-free allowances.

Not only local elections but also other factors urge the government to hasty action. Measures that have not been decided upon by the Cabinet by the middle of a government's term of office have little prospect of becoming law before the end of that legislative period.

Problems to be dealt with are difficult and many of them are a source of conflict between SPD and FDP. Thus it is essential to work towards compromises acceptable to both sides as soon as possible if the Cabinet is to produce Bills by next summer recess at the latest.

Among the reforms causing conflict in the government are taxation and private capital accumulation policy as well as worker participation in management. But the potential for reaching agreement is there.

As far as the latter is concerned Willy Brandt's statement of government policy gave an indication that the basis of the balance between capital and labour would be respected.

The recent declaration by the FDP that the Coalition was about to face the acid test where social welfare policy was concerned indicates that the FDP is far more concerned that this test should be passed than that it should be the brake on SPD reform ventures.

Land laws and the role of local governments in development plans are among the reforms in view as well as improvements to the vocational training programme and other education reform affairs.

In these spheres it should not be difficult for the coalition partners to reach agreement. Total agreement has been achieved already on fuel and power policy, the environmental protection programme and European agricultural and finance policies.

The climate is right at present for agreements between the coalition partners. Attempts by Walter Scheel and other FDP politicians to give their party an image of its own and prevent it being swallowed up the SPD have not endangered the joint responsibilities of the two parties.

As far as the topical theme of the employment of extremists in the public service is concerned both parties are in absolute agreement that inroads of this kind into the basic democratic order must be avoided.

If the levelling out in the rate of price rises that has already begun continues then the Coalition can face the acid test of domestic policymaking with confidence.

Werner Neumann

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 8 August 1973)

■ GDR

Few tears shed over Walter Ulbricht's death

Frankfurter Rundschau

Walter Ulbricht shared the fate of Konrad Adenauer, his great antagonist in that the post-war era upon which they set their stamp ended during their lifetime. Both men too were more than mere executors of power.

The end of the post-war era marked by Leonid Brezhnev's new policy of detente with the West saw the fulfilment of both Adenauer's and Ulbricht's historical role of laying the foundations of a State in the part of Germany they ruled that would prove strong enough to survive their death.

Ulbricht's end contains a number of tragic elements. This cool, calculating tactician whose sure instinct for developments was almost proverbial learned that he had made a decisive mistake in repeatedly warning Moscow to slow down the pace of its policy of detente towards the Federal Republic.

His advice, which had always been heeded in the past, was now ignored despite the fact that he could claim to have been right in two decisive situations – in 1953 after the revolt of 17 June and in 1956 after the Hungarian Revolution.

In 1953 Ulbricht warned Moscow against rushing headlong into the "new course" which aimed to curb the spread of Socialism in the German Democratic Republic.

He believed that the only reason the Hungarian Revolution had proved possible was because the tight controls prevailing were slackened at the wrong moment of time. Ulbricht could point in triumph to the results of what he called a policy of weakness.

After the downfall of Malenkov and Beria, both of whom sought detente with the Federal Republic even at that early date, Ulbricht, as adaptable as ever, came to terms with Malenkov's successor, Nikita Krushchev, who did not come to look upon Ulbricht as a hindrance until the final year of his administration.

As far as domestic policy was concerned, Ulbricht took the downfall of Malenkov and Beria as an excuse to eliminate his opponents within the party – the supporters of a humane Socialism and a specifically German way to Socialism.

Party members such as Wilhelm Zaisser, Rudolf Herrnstadt, Franz Dahlem and Anton Ackermann were ousted, declared enemies of the party, stripped of their party offices and, in some cases, thrown into prison. But, unlike Stalin, Ulbricht never stained his hands with blood.

The revolt of 17 June 1953 and the flood of refugees that starting streaming out of the GDR at the end of the fifties exposed the shaky foundations of Ulbricht's regime.

For years Ulbricht was prepared to have the majority of the population against him as he was convinced that mankind could only achieve real happiness under a socialist system.

It was only after he persuaded Moscow to let him build the Berlin Wall in the summer of 1961 that he was able to breathe more freely again. Protected by the Wall, Ulbricht began the systematic construction of a socialist German State which was intended to be a model for Germany as a whole.

Under the "new economic system" he entered into economic competition with the Federal Republic and tried to catch it up and overtake it. This plan failed but, despite a large number of setbacks, the GDR's economic potential rose year by year so that the GDR with its no more than seventeen million inhabitants is today one of the largest industrial nations in the world and the Soviet Union's most important trading partner.

Ulbricht soon grew out of his role as a mere satellite of Moscow. His loyalty to the Soviet Union, the model socialist State, was never doubted but as he grew older Ulbricht became more and more independent and his obstinacy annoyed more people than Polish party-leader Vladislav Gomulka.

Ulbricht, the man without passions as he was once called, found it difficult to establish contact with other people and was even isolated within the leadership of the Socialist Unity Party (SED). He was unable to form friedships with any of his colleagues.

His awkwardness, even when in the company of his closest colleagues, and the coldness he radiated, even though he tried to mask it, robbed him of the public sympathy he, as the true founder of the first German workers' and peasants' State, tried to obtain in recent years.

He left his successor a well-administered State. The SED's system of government was so well established by the time he resigned in May 1971 that his successsor, Erich Honecker, was able to complete the change of course towards the Federal Republic instituted by Moscow without any serious upheavals on the home front. That is not the least of Ulbricht's accomplishments.

Politically speaking, Ulbricht had been dead for some time. In the end his voice had no influence because of his stubborn resistance to Bonn's Ostpolitik. His rapid physical decline was another reason for his political downfall.

He rarely appeared in public and he must have considered it particularly humiliating to be represented as head of the State Council by his deputy Friedrich Ebert who, though only two years younger, was a far more vital man.

As Ulbricht was forced into the background over the last couple of years, his name silently disappeared from newspapers. Sports stadiums, factories and State institutions bearing his name were re-christened.

Photographs of the old leader, which had once had to have his personal approval, had long since disappeared from the newspapers. The last pictures showed the once omnipotent ruler as a helpless old man sitting in an armchair.

"Nothing can check old age," he once commented sadly. But despite everything fate may have been kind to him. His physical decline forced him to hand over the reins of power that he could not have held for much longer anyway.

Soon he would have suffered the same fate he imposed on many of his former colleagues. Once their period of usefulness was over they were mercilessly cast aside.

Despite Walter Ulbricht's death, which was announced on 1 August, the Youth Festival being held in East Berlin continued, at least for a few hours.

Tens of thousands of blue-shirted members of the party youth organisation strolled around the pedestrian precincts in the city centre, around the television tower and on Alexanderplatz as if nothing had happened. Bands played and the open-air quiz games continued.

GDR television, which had announced Ulbricht's death, interrupted its transmissions of the Festival programme, which it had broadcast almost non-stop since 28 July, and put on a programme of classical music. The radio surprisingly continued its Festival reports despite the fact that the official news agency ADN had announced Ulbricht's death.

A commission consisting of the GDR government and the international committee met immediately after the news of Ulbricht's death to discuss whether the Youth Festival should continue.

The Federal Republic's delegation stated that it would follow the recommendations of the organisers. The delegation had arranged a "National evening" for that very day and a large number of guests had been invited.

GDR radio gave Ulbricht's death prominence in its news bulletins but did no more than read the official medical report with its signatures. The second item of news followed: "Erich Honecker, First Secretary of the SED Central Committee, welcomed representatives of the world's youth . . ." It was business as usual.

But the main radio station replaced its programme of light music – specially broadcast for the Festival – by more serious works. A suite of communist battle-songs was also heard, starting with "Spain's Skies", the song of the Thälmann Brigade in the Spanish Civil War, continuing with the *Warschawianka* and ending with *Schon dämmert in der Ferne das Morgenrot* (The red of dawn already shimmers in the distance). The prospect must have sounded odd to many citizens of the GDR on this of all days.

Annamarie Doherr
Hans Lerchbacher
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 2 August 1973)



Walter Ulbricht (Photo: Sven Simon)

East Berlin's Youth Festival

Lübecker Nachrichten

The International Youth and Student Festival ended in East Berlin after nine days of "pleasure and joie de vivre" according to the German Democratic Republic's propaganda machine. Some thirty thousand foreign guests attended this political spectacular. Approximately eight hundred came from the Federal Republic and West Berlin.

The encounter between the youth of the Federal Republic and the GDR on Alexanderplatz, on other streets and other areas of East Berlin, in the bars and the accommodation set aside for participants of the Festival can be described as the "German Dispute" that the GDR had always shunned.

Indeed many of the ideas expressed during the course of the Festival could not have been heard in East Berlin before. But the Socialist Unity Party (SED) gave the go-ahead for a little more freedom of thought and exchange of ideas. It owes this relaxation to its international reputation. But it also seized upon the opportunity to put across its own point of view.

Some doubts have been raised as to whether the Federal Republic's youth delegation took full advantage of the chance offered, though some sarcastic commentators are describing the political and ideological differences within the group and their public arguments as adequate representation!

Wolfgang Roth, leader of the Young Socialists, made a speech on Bebel Platz which was printed in full the next day in *Neues Deutschland*, the SED party newspaper. Even passages critical of the regime were included.

But many Western observers have attacked Roth's speech for being too accommodating to East Berlin. Fierce critics view the speech and other statements by the Young Socialists attending the Festival as a sign of an impending Popular Front.

Members of the Social Democratic Young Workers Association (SDAJ) and the Communist Party (DKP) attacked other members of the Federal Republic delegation and even outdid the East Berlin youth organisation FDJ in their arguments.

The small group of representatives belonging to the Junge Union, the CDU youth organisation, always readily recognisable in their yellow shirts, had the hardest time of things.

The Junge Union had evidently been branded as an extremely reactionary organisation during the months of ideological training given by the FDJ in preparation for the Festival. But the Junge Union thinks its visit to East Berlin was a success.

Time will tell whether the GDR too can regard the Festival as a success. The Festival, unlike its predecessors, certainly remained free of incident. The GDR was certainly able to present itself to its guests from the Third World as a modern and vital State with a cosmopolitan capital (at least during the nine days of the Festival). It is also certain that many of the frank comments made by the Western delegations will have hit home.

The GDR was also able to note that little danger threatens from the West, at least as far as it is embodied in the

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■ LEGAL AFFAIRS

Constitutional Court rules in favour of Basic Treaty

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Two months ago the Federal state of Bavaria brought the whole question of the Basic Treaty between the Federal Republic and the German Democratic Republic before the Federal Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe.

The reaction in many cases was anger. Was such an important agreement as the Basic Treaty to be stabbed in the back at the last minute with the help of the law, people asked.

Some of the CSU members responsible for bringing the Constitutional Court into the case would certainly have wanted a different verdict to the one now recorded by the Court's Second Chamber.

But all politicians can benefit from the verdict, irrespective of whether they belong to government or Opposition. The judges have gone far beyond the actual case at issue -- the ratification of the Basic Treaty -- and listed a number of guidelines for the future.

Germany's legal position has been a subject of dispute since 1945, particularly so since the establishment of the two German governments in Bonn and East Berlin in 1949.

In years of discussion lawyers coined terms such as the partial States theory, the identity theory, civil war theory or two-State theory to explain a unique historical phenomenon -- a partitioned country without a peace treaty in which two differing political and social orders had formed.

The Federal Republic has always held the view that there is, has been and will be only one German State and that it is solely and exclusively the organs of the Federal Republic of Germany that today represent this undestroyed German State.

"This is not altered by the fact that the authority of the German State cannot be exercised uniformly in all parts of the country," Chancellor Konrad Adenauer claimed after the Russians had made their statement concerning the sovereignty of the German Democratic Republic in 1954.

The Basic Treaty between the Federal Republic and the German Democratic Republic confronts the legal norms once governing Bonn's policy in this sector with a new situation as it involves recognition of the authority of the GDR as a State. It should also lead in time to the entry of the two German States to the United Nations.

Does this course represent a violation or even the abandonment of legal norms that once used to be looked upon as undisputed and indispensable and which formed the basis for all government action in this sector? This argument could sometimes be heard in debates on the Basic Treaty.

But the Constitutional Court ruling states that the government's traditional legal standpoint has not been undermined by the Basic Treaty with East Berlin. The judges claim that the German Reich did not perish with the collapse of 1945 but continues to exist under international law.

In the light of this interpretation it is only consistent for the government still to heed its obligation to encourage reunification and consider the Federal Republic responsible for Germany as a whole.

The codicils on German unity that the government insisted on attaching to all its treaties with Eastern Bloc countries in the course of its Ospolitik were indispensable in the light of this ruling.

But the Constitutional Court has also drawn the logical conclusion from the fact that the authority of the German State cannot be exercised uniformly, a state of affairs which even CDU Chancellors never disputed.

The ruling states that the Basic Treaty is not a merely transitional agreement but a new basis for determining relations between the two German States – though with the decisive proviso that the Federal Republic must never look upon the GDR as a foreign country.

The judges at Karlsruhe have thereby accepted the normative power of a de facto situation -- a doctrine that plays a major role in constitutional law. However this passage of their verdict reveals the primacy enjoyed by the government in the political sector.

For all their commitment to the maintenance of German unity the judges did not want to bar the way along which politicians in Bonn hope to achieve reunification. The government is allowed to exercise its own discretion in choosing the political methods it plans to use in trying to achieve this reunification.

The Constitutional Court has always allowed the government to explore all political opportunties offered to it. The recent verdict confirms former rulings.

Governments headed by the CDU/CSU looked upon the concept of German unity as something that had to be stubbornly defended, not as a dynamic policy of the type now pursued by the SPD-FDP coalition. Who is to rule out the possibility that this course could lead to the long-term aim?

Even though considerations of this type appear remote in view of the current lie of the land, one of the merits of the Constitutional Court's ruling is that it leaves these vague prospects of a reunified State completely open.

The judges have not however given the government a completely free hand but have imposed a considerable number of obligations that must be satisfied in the further course of dealing between the two countries.

These demands are more than just a warning. They are based on the somewhat illusionary belief that the norms of Basic Law, the Federal Republic's constitution, can and should be made to apply to the GDR by means of documents such as a postal and telecommunications agreement.

The Constitutional Court judges were here confronted by a conflict between constitutional law, which can impose demands of this nature, and international law, where conditions of this type do not occur.

This objection is also true of the claim that the Berlin Wall, the mines and barbed wire of the demarcation line and the order to fire at would-be refugees are incompatible with the Basic Treaty. Time will tell whether or not walking the tightrope will prove too dangerous with these shackles.

The Constitutional Court has acted as a helper in a time of need. On the one hand it has maintained its claim to provide a conclusive ruling on whether specific treaties conform to Basic Law or not. On the other hand it criticised the government for making light of a case before the Court.

As helpful as the help of the law is – and this case has once again proved the truth of this – there still remains the old principle that law cannot replace politics. This principle must retain its validity for government policy in this sector.

Heinz Verfürth
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 2 August 1973)

Continued from page 4

Federal Republic's delegation. Most danger is seen to come from the Maoist groups which followed China's example and boycotted the Festival though they managed to criticise the event loudly and make the State and party leadership in the GDR insecure.

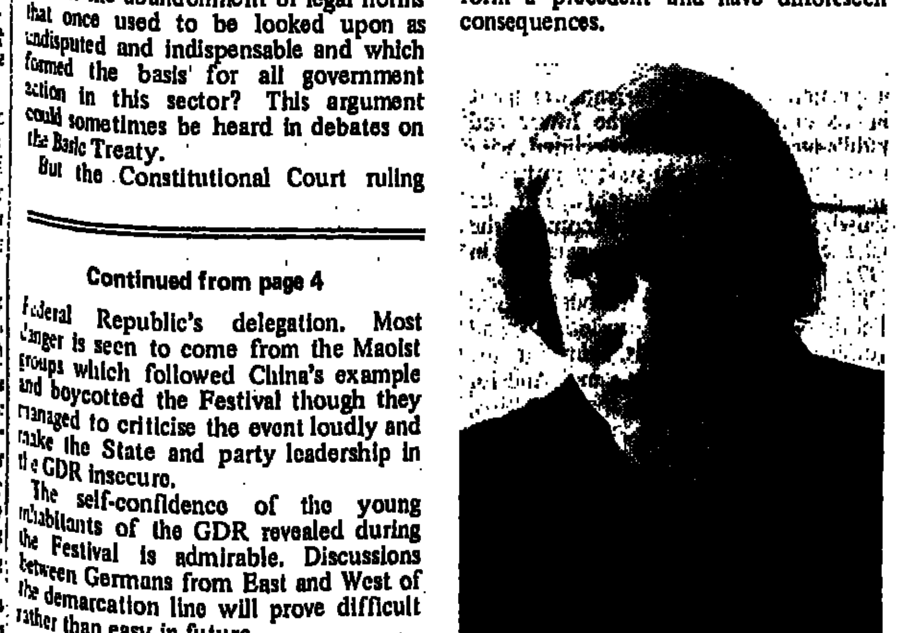
The self-confidence of the young inhabitants of the GDR revealed during the Festival is admirable. Discussions between Germans from East and West of the demarcation line will prove difficult rather than easy in future.

H.U.Kersten
(Lübecker Nachrichten, 7 August 1973)

Communist judge controversy

Chancellor Willy Brand and the prime ministers of the Federal states will turn once again to the question of employing political extremists at their next joint conference on 20 September. Heinz Kühn, the Social Democrat Premier of North Rhine-Westphalia, requested this following difficulties in interpreting the ruling on the employment of political extremists passed last year that came to light when Volker Götz, a member of the Communist Party, was appointed a judge at the Düsseldorf regional court.

Controversy is still raging in North Rhine-Westphalia over the appointment of a Communist Party member as judge in a Düsseldorf court. Düsseldorf Lawyers Association has expressed its alarm its alarm that Justice Minister Diether Posser is insisting on the appointment of 28-year-old Volker Götz as a probationary judge at Düsseldorf regional court. The executive of the Lawyers Association claim that this could form a precedent and have unforeseen consequences.



Volker Götz

Justice Minister Posser gave his go-ahead to the appointment some time ago after speaking with Götz and finding that he did not plan to overthrow the constitution.

Dr Thunecke, head of the Court of Appeal, then exercised his powers under Article 59 of the public officials law, questioned the legality of the Minister's decision and refused to appoint Götz.

Posser respected Thunecke's action but neither man gave way in a subsequent discussion of the case. Thunecke considered that Götz's appointment was contrary to the Prime Minister's ruling on the employment of political extremists in the public services.

Thunecke considers the DKP to be an unconstitutional party and evidently shares Interior Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher's opinion that its aims run contrary to Basic Law, the Federal Republic's constitution.

Posser stated after the discussion that he agreed with Thunecke that enemies of the constitution should not be employed in the public services. But, he argued, the DKP is permitted under Basic Law and membership of this party should therefore be no disqualification for employment in the public services.

Posser's view of the situation conforms with guidelines issued by the Federal Constitutional Court in 1961 under which no action can be taken against a party thought to be operating contrary to Basic Law until the appropriate court had passed its verdict. Posser claimed that the executive of the Judges Association shared his view.

Diether Posser

(Photos: dpa)

Posser has sent Thunecke Götz's letters of appointment and expects them to be signed and handed to Götz.

The Düsseldorf Lawyers Association expects Posser to revise his decision to appoint Götz a judge. This office, the organisation claims, demands a high degree of loyalty to the constitution and the law as well as objectivity and impartiality. It appears untenable to appoint as judge a member of an organisation that aims to overthrow the democratic State.

The Christian Democrat Opposition in Düsseldorf describes the case as monstrous and has brought it before the Provincial Assembly. Premier Heinz Kühn has stated in the meantime that he supports Posser's view of the legal situation.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 20 July 1973)

ECONOMICS

Inflation is heading for the *Götterdämmerung*

The export boom was less marked in June this year. But despite this fact Federal Republic exports were a more decisive factor in stoking the fires of inflation than was the increase in the amount of money in circulation at home.

For this reason theoreticians are in favour of a further revaluation of the Mark.

It seems that exporters are still thriving despite the international currency turbulence and the revaluations of the Mark which make their products dearer in other countries.

In the first quarter of 1972 the index of in-coming orders from this country as well as from abroad stood at 105 (taking 1970 as 100). In May this year the index for domestic orders had risen to 135. But for orders from abroad it had soared to 157.

Obviously the continued boom in exports contributed more to the worrying rate of inflation in this country in the spring than did the increase in the amount of money in circulation. Economists therefore feel it is essential to give the Mark another hefty up-valuation.

Exporters, on the other hand, deny that there is a boom in business, and are justified in so doing. The formula issued by ministerial departments "a rapid increase in in-coming orders" does conjure up the picture of a salesman sitting calmly behind his desk watching the pile of papers in his "orders — IN" tray pile up.

But of course this is not the case. Today as much as, if not more than, ever orders must be fought for. What is startling is that this country has been so successful in battling for export orders. What are the reasons for these successes?

Recently there has been a rapid increase in the world market prices for raw materials, and this has meant that developing countries, which rely largely on exports of these materials for their economic strength, have enjoyed greater purchasing power.

Moody's Index of the world market trading in goods negotiated in dollars is at present about fifty per cent higher than it was in the corresponding period of last year.

The bulk of the commodities covered by this index are goods exported by developing countries. For many years Third World countries complained that to buy the industrial produce they required they had to export ever-increasing amounts of their raw materials to acquire the necessary foreign exchange.

Ambitious international conferences were called on numerous occasions to try to find a solution to the price gap existing between the products Third World countries had for export and the industrial goods they imported. Predictably these conferences always proved ineffectual. The shadow of these hopeless negotiations lay over the most recent conference in Brussels between EEC officials and representatives of African developing nations.

In the past year the price gap has swung dramatically in the other direction. For each ton of copper, cocoa and wool they can produce these countries now receive considerably more machinery from the industrial world than they have been accustomed to in the past. They can buy more cars. Their requirements of chemicals can be covered much more cheaply. But the benefit is only being felt by a few developing countries.

As a result of the drought plaguing Central and Western Africa Nigeria has very little cocoa to sell. Chile is suffering from greater balance of payments problems than ever, since Socialism has brought chaos to its copper-mining industry.

At any rate, the fact is that the Federal Republic "export boom" about which we hear so much has nothing to do with supplies to underdeveloped nations. Today as in the past their contribution to our export returns is minimal. In the first five months of this year just seventeen per cent of our exports were to developing countries, the same as in the same period of last year.

But at the same time the share of industrial nations in our exports rose from 77 to eighty per cent.

The boost in the price of raw materials has simply meant that now in our dealings with the Third World exports and imports are better balanced with fewer unremunerative export orders for which savers and taxpayers have to bear the burden.

It was on the markets of the capitalist industrialised nations that Federal Republic industry achieved its export successes. Thus the reason for these successes is answered — at the root of the matter lies the hectic rate of inflation in the Western industrial world.

The economic weight of the industrialised countries of the West has become so enormous in the international economic sphere that all other factors are pushed into the background.

If the developing countries wanted to produce the same economic effect as a ten-per-cent increase in imports to industrial nations they would have to up their imports by 38 per cent.

The inflationary spree of the 500 million people who live in the industrial nations decisively affects the economic climate of the world. The other 3,000 million people hardly cause a ripple.

The role of Europe within this industrial zone has once again become much more important than that of the United States and Canada together (these two can be considered together as one economic unit).

A comparison of imports of Europe, North America and the Third World in the past two decades is as follows:

	1954	1963	1972
Industrial Europe	23	53	151
USA/Canada	16	25	79
Third World	21	32	60

Figures quoted in milliard dollars. Source: IMF statistics

The rich countries of the world live off their own proceeds and off each other. In the past twenty years they have managed to increase their imports sixfold, while the developing countries have not even managed to treble theirs. The rich countries found four-fifths of the items they required in other rich countries.

This sticking together is not part of some sinister plot, but simply results from the fact that neither developing countries nor the communist world could supply the type of goods the rich countries required.

But this seventh of the world which has managed to make itself rich by using its industrial talents did not content itself with the gifts and privileges Nature had bestowed on it.

Europe and America wanted a faster growth in prosperity and began to do what the Third World had long been doing as a supposed stimulus to the economy — they began counterfeiting their own money!

An increase in the amount of money in circulation by over ten per cent, as has become common in rich countries in recent years, used to be the preserve of the poorer nations who tried to paper over their insufficient productivity with paper money.

Thus the rate of price rises in the Rich Mens' Club began to take on those proportions once scornfully described as "South American".

As confidence in money dwindled people in Europe and America turned to objects of value, and when these became scarce they turned as a last resort to mass-produced objects, the standard stock of world trade, which could be bought at one desk and resold at another at a later date at a profit without any of those involved in the deal ever having laid eyes on them.

Managers of the manufacturing industries stock pile raw materials far beyond their immediate or foreseeable needs, believing that in this way they could protect themselves against soaring prices and the declining value of money.

The lust for goods bred a lust for credit. Those who have money to lend seek ways of doing so to their own best advantage. The people they trample over are savers, pensioners, insurance policy-holders, people who cannot protect themselves against the falling value of money.

This inflationary madness and that of the early twenties are as like as two peas in a pod. The only difference is that the names have been changed. The bankruptcies that will come later are just as inevitable.

It is from this inflationary insanity that the Federal Republic exporting industries are at present being fed. With the increase in the prices of raw materials the mad rush to escape from unreliable cash holdings has hotted up even more.

It does not take a mathematics genius or an economics graduate to work out that increases in the price of foodstuffs will bring higher and higher wage demands in their wake, leading to an even further increase in the price of branded goods. At the same time raw materials and energy supply will become more expensive.

The bubble will go on expanding and expanding and expanding ... until it bursts. As soon as the inflationary tumour has reached the limit of its excesses there will be chaos.

The first signs of the bursting of the inflationary bubble have been given most clearly by the building trade in this country. It came to this pretty pass (there have been a number of bankruptcies already) when there was a good deal of talk about "the fight against inflation" but very little serious attention was given to the problem.

Action was not taken to prevent the watering down of the value of money in this branch. Any slowing down of the inflationary process was minimal. And this was enough to cause the mad inflationary maniacs to explode with anger and terror.

Salesmen come down to earth when they find that their customers are buying items they do not want to use. They purchase things that might come in useful some day, simply and solely to get rid of the money they own or *have borrowed*.

These purchases have to stop when borrowed money runs out and when they are unable to borrow more because the rate of interest has soared beyond the level that makes "rainy day" purchases worth having.

In this respect the market is steering towards the edge of the precipice without the Bundesbank's even lifting a finger. For the amount of money available on credit depends on the number of people living on tick. When this number starts to shrink inflation cannot continue, salesmen can no longer find their regular customers and they have to get rid of their goods as cheaply as possible to cut their losses.

Interest rates throughout the Rich Men's Club have started to head for the heavens. The good old Bank of England has had to raise its Minimum Lending Rate (formerly Bank Rate) to a record level of 11.5 per cent.

In the free play of market forces we are seeing the first presages of an overall *Götterdämmerung*. The first to fall victims to this will be the champions of the inflationary mentality, proving once again the elementary law of economics that fraud cannot possibly pay over the long term.

A worldwide synchronisation of financial forces has been noted that closely resembles the situation prevailing prior to the 1929 crash.

This does not necessarily mean that events will follow the pattern of 1929. Governments and banks of issue will have the experience of 1929 to draw on and will use this knowledge to avoid making the same mistakes.

They will have to return to a policy of increased counterfeiting out of fear of the consequences of an honest monetary policy. Whether they can achieve more than stagflation thereby remains to be seen.

Walter Wannenmacher
(Deutsche Zeitung, 3 August 1973)

Consumer spending figures, 1972

First statistics for earnings and expenditure in 1972 in selected households have recently been published by the Federal Statistics Office. These statistics cover three types of household with incomes within certain limits.

The groups are: two people receiving pensions and social security with a very small income (under 700 Marks in 1972), four-person households with a working head of the household and a moderate income (between 1,200 and 1,800 Marks) and four-strong households with an income between 2,400 and 3,100 Marks.

In the low income bracket 89 per cent of expendable income went on private consumption. The other eleven per cent remained for other expenditure and for savings and repaying debts.

The middle-income households spent 83 per cent, and the higher-income groups 77 per cent of their expendable earnings on private consumer goods. The proportion (but not the amount) spent on consumer goods in the lower and middle-income households declined, with a corresponding rise in money put aside and used to pay back debts. For the households with large incomes the balance remained much the same as in 1971.

The percentage spent on foodstuffs was slightly lower for pensioners and working-class households, but for the higher paid remained the same. And for all three groups more was spent on rents, less on travel and the communications media.

The most important factors affecting the cost of living, foodstuffs and luxuries, clothing and shoes, rents, electricity, gas and fuel produced the following figures: pensioners — 78 per cent of consumer spending; working class — 65 per cent; top income bracket — 54 per cent. These have changed little since 1971.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 4 August 1973)

AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

European HQ in Britain lets Fords down badly

"The company's back has been broken," the head of Fords in the Federal Republic, Hans-Adolf Barthelmeh admitted to friends on his resignation. Barthelmeh, 49, resigned "for personal reasons," according to the company, but it is well known that company policy made him decide to leave.

Barthelmeh, born in Cologne, spent a two-year training period as a works superintendant with Ford, before being made head of the taxation department in 1952. His break with the firm after long years of service can be attributed to the policies of the Detroit headquarters.

Their company policy, as the balance sheets and the successes of competitors show, has been on the wrong lines since 1965, and has caused Ford to misjudge the market.

The so-called European Concept of Henry Ford II, the grandson of the founder, has proved once again to be a failure. The transference of responsibility from Cologne to Brentwood, Essex, the newly-built European headquarters, revealed in 1965 the way in which American managers sometimes view the European market. "A car built in Britain and styled to British tastes need not

DIE WELT

necessarily be a success on the Continent," one Ford manager wrote, describing this concept quite succinctly.

Directors of Fords in this country have had to contend with British imponderables, and Henry Ford himself threatened in 1971 that if trouble brewed again he would stop the production lines.

Ford was attacking serious quality deficiencies in the Ford Taunus produced at his British factory but also sold on the West German market.

And the latest model, the Ford Consul, caused headaches as well. The two-door version, designed as a competitor to the Opel Manta with which the Rüsselsheim firm challenges Ford on the American and Federal Republic markets, was put on sale here eighteen months late by the British plant. It hit the market after the crucial spring period was over, as well.

In 1965 Ford gave up its "rational programme" and threw over the series of cars built on a kit system with its cost-saving advantages. The company started to produce a wide range of cars in various shapes and sizes, ranging from the Escort to the Capri and Granada. Since then Opel has raced ahead of its Cologne rivals. Up till 1965 the two companies, both US subsidiaries, had been neck-and-neck.

"If business is bad our profits sag," Franz Bohr, the head of finance, said recently. And indeed Ford has been rolling remorselessly downhill. The 1972 balance sheet read: productivity — down; sales — down; investments — down; profits — down.

In the past three years the profit per car produced has slumped from 383 Marks to 228. The only comparison to this is Wolfsburg's Volkswagen factory's least successful models.

This sad state of affairs led to a high turnover — in personnel! The motor industry has pointed mockingly at the managerial level of Fords and joked: "There are more new faces there than new models on the production line!"

Since 1965 Ford workers have seen six managing directors come and five go. John Andrews left in 1965. Robert Layton, today the Chairman of the Board of the Düsseldorf paper factory Feldmühle, departed Fords in 1967. Max Ueber packed his bags in 1969. After another two-year stay John A. Banning quit to be followed by Barthelmeh. And now Barthelmeh makes way for Hans Schaberger, 46, previously production-manager.

Comings and goings in England, too. four times the position of head of sales in Europe changed hands, and the European manager's position has changed three times in five years.

Barthelmeh's friends say that he quit sooner than he originally intended, following research carried out by *Manager Magazin*, published in Hamburg.

In the history of mismanagement at Fords it is claimed there is proof positive that the head of the concern in this country has not been receiving the correct guidance.

One of the reasons for the troubles at high level is the fact that members of the board only recieve an average of 200,000 Marks a year, which is below the general level for the Federal Republic motor industry and smart executives in the motor industry always clamour for the best-paid jobs.

Other decisions taken by the European headquarters also brought little cheer to the company. The motor trade considers Fords' plans to put lorries built in Britain on to the German market to be misguided considering that Daimler-Benz have practically cornered this market. At the very best the company would have to go through a long lean period before achieving the ten per cent of the market it is aiming at.

Among the horrors facing the Ford management last year was the decline in the company's share of the market. Ten per cent is considered to be the critical stage and in 1972 Ford's proportion slumped to twelve per cent.

Lothar Pulvermüller, member of the board of the largest German Ford sales and distribution centre, Schwabengarage in Stuttgart, groaned: "This was a big headache for us."

In the first four months of this year Fords only achieved slightly more than five per cent extra registrations of new cars, while the average was over ten per cent up for all makes.

Despite these horrific statistics the Ford management, those managers who are remaining, are confident. Franz Bohr says that he is also cheerful, even in the most difficult of situations.

Joachim Feyerabend
(Die Welt, 28 July 1973)

Daimler-Benz is flourishing

At the AGM of Daimler-Benz Chairman of the Board Dr Joachim Zahn said that the company had an annual turnover of between fifteen and sixteen milliard Marks, and that trading was satisfactory despite the difficulties that had arisen and burdens that would have to be borne in the next few months.

In the first half of this year car production was up by threee per cent to about 170,000 units. The more luxurious cars are flourishing with an increase in productivity of 29 per cent to nearly 44,000 vehicles.

Production of Mercedes commercial vehicles was up by about ten per cent to 112,000 units. Turnover in the company as a whole increased by about seventeen per cent to 7,800 million Marks in the first six months of 1973.

Orders in hand will keep plant running at full stretch till the end of the year. In-coming orders for both passenger and goods vehicles have increased.

Dr Zahn's report was greeted enthusiastically by the approximately 1,700 shareholders and representatives of shareholders who had turned up at the AGM.

Chairman of the Supervisory Board Dr Franz Heinrich Ulrich added that 1972 had been a particularly favourable year for Daimler-Benz.

With regard to cooperative production of commercial vehicles with the Magirus factory of the Klöckner-Humboldt-Deutz concern Dr Zahn said that negotiations to this effect had taken place and Daimler-Benz was prepared to agree to terms if the other side were willing.

Dr Ulrich, who is also Chairman of the Supervisory Board of KHD, said that rumours of Daimler-Benz' taking over Magirus were news to him, and in the present circumstances were way off the beam.

Asked if there were any truth in the suggestion that Dr Prinz, the Chairman of the Volkswagen Board would be joining Daimler-Benz Dr Ulrich said that the Daimler-Benz Supervisory Board would be discussing this after the AGM.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 1 August 1973)

Motor industry is still buoyant

The Federal Republic automobile industry took a slight downturn in June. With 332,873 cars rolling off the production lines production was down 5.1 per cent on June 1972, a drop of 17,700 units.

However, this drop in productivity can be ascribed to the extra days' leave in June, as Whitsun fell in this month this year. Productivity per day was up five per cent on June last year.

In several Federal states, however, the summer holidays were brought forward to June, which meant that not only was absolute productivity down by 14.5 per cent, but also, because of the loss of impetus, daily productivity rates were down 5.5 per cent.

This also meant that for the first time the continual increase in car exports was checked. But the drop in exports was only three per cent less than the cutback in productivity.

Compared with May absolute car exports in June were cut by fifteen per cent and on a daily basis they dropped by almost six per cent.

Quite clearly demand from overseas has dropped slightly, although in-coming orders from abroad are at a higher level than at this time last year. Home demand has dropped.

Although the automobile industry had to cut back its productivity in June productivity for the first six months of this year, standing at almost 2,200,000 units is a new record.

And the growth in productivity of 142,550 vehicles was greater than anyone dared to predict at the beginning of the year.

The latest sales figures cast doubt on the likelihood of this increase being maintained in the second half of this year.This is particularly true of the lorry building industry, which is heading for hard times. In the first half of this year lorry production was up by 146,100 units, about five per cent higher than at this time last year.

The healthy increse in car production in the first half of this year is largely due to the new record exports of 1,300,000 vehicles, an eleven per cent increase on last year's January to June figures.

On average 58 per cent of the cars produced in this country in the first six months of this year were exported. This means that the export quota was two per cent higher than in the first half of 1972.

Harald Manke
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 26 July 1973)

Dr Prinz quits VW — for Daimler?

Round and round goes the Volkswagen board merry-go-round. In the spring former chief technician Professor Holste resigned from the board. Before him Dr Karl Hahn had quit his desk on the executive storey at the Wolfsburg headquarters.

And now Dr Gerhard Prinz, the member of the VW board responsible for company investments, has started packing his bags.

Holste and Prinz were not really missed, Their differences of opinion with the company boss Rudolf Leiding were on occasions quite marked. But it is with great regret that VW will see 44 year-old lawyer Gerhard Prinz' back.

On such occasions the old, old cliché, "we are parting on the best of terms and by mutual agreement" is worn out by regular use, but on this occasion it would seem to be justified.

Prinz is a good manager whose ability

STUTTGARTER NACHRICHTEN

to cope with particularly niggling problems above and beyond the confines of Volkswagen was renowned.

Apart from his work at Volkswagen his services as Chairman of the Board of Audi NSU underlined this renown. Following the VW takeover of Audi NSU he turned the subsidiary company, which was not in the best of health, into a proud concern which will probably hand over more in the way of profits to the parent company in 1973 than VW itself can achieve. And this he succeeded in doing in less than three years.

It seems highly unlikely, therefore, that friction within the company brought about Prinz' decision to leave, especially as he is recognised as a close confidant of Rudolf Leiding and for a long time was considered to be Leiding's crown prince.

For the moment the reasons for Dr Prinz' terminating his contract are the $64,000 question.

It is possible that Prinz decided his chances of one day becoming the head of the greatest industrial concern on German soil were not all that good.

Recently Horst Münzer, previously head of the buying department, occupied the chair left vacant by sales manager Karl Hahn. It is well known in the car industry that an expert on the sales side has a far grater chance of reaching for the stars than someone who is responsible for company investments.

Without doubt Dr Prinz has the offer of a new post in his pocket, and one that will enable him to continue his career, which has so far been brilliant.

Rumour hath it that he does intend to reach for the stars — the stars that decorate the bonnet of cars manufactured down in Stuttgart! But Daimler-Benz, when asked leading questions, have exercised the reserve that is traditional in this country.

Ewald Stein
(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 25 July 1973)

■ TECHNOLOGY

Paul Bracq, BMW's Munich styling supremo

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Paul Bracq, born in Bordeaux in 1933 and christened with local wine, was so keen on design as a schoolboy that on leaving school he wanted to be a sculptor in Paris.

But the atmosphere of the Paris motor show, then still held in the Champs Elysées so enthralled him that his creations almost automatically gained a wheel at each corner.

He learnt his trade thoroughly, starting with wood and plastic models, studying blueprints and going on to style special models for advertising purposes and to work in the styling department for Salmson, a long- forgotten French marque and aero engine manufacturer for a quarter of a century.

He made the acquaintance of the director of *L'Automobile*, which later published the first photos of Bracq's futuristic car body designs.

Bracq was one of the team that designed a special vehicle for President Coty, the French head of state.

His break came when as a soldier in the south-west of the Federal Republic he was ordered to take his general's Mercedes to Untertürkheim, Stuttgart, for servicing.

There, by a stroke of coincidence, he made the acquaintance of Daimler-Benz director Wilfert, the man in charge of statistics, who subsequently gave him a job at Sindelfingen.

From 1957 till 1967 Bracq worked in the styling department at Sindelfingen, where he learnt at first hand how difficult it is to adapt bold ideas to the requirements of long-run manufacture.

Then Bracq, meanwhile married to a textiles student from Stuttgart, returned to France and an appointment with Brisonneau & Lotz of Creil, where he built up a styling centre for what was a sheet-metal works much like Karmann, the Osnabrück manufacturers of the Karmann Ghia sports models based on Volkswagen chassis and engines.

Destiny was again on his side when design director Osswald of BMW offered him the post of head of styling from 1 January 1970. He accepted and moved to Munich, where he works to this day.

One of Bracq's most cherished ambitions has always been to design a car that sells like hot cakes for ten years, remains in demand as a second-hand model and makes its appearance in museums twenty years later.

As BMW's styling supremo he is responsible for the BMW 520 and the Turbo. In Bracq's view the turbo-BMW special is his brain-child extraordinary, though there can be no denying similarities with the Mercedes C 111, another car where you cannot tell from outside where the engine is located.

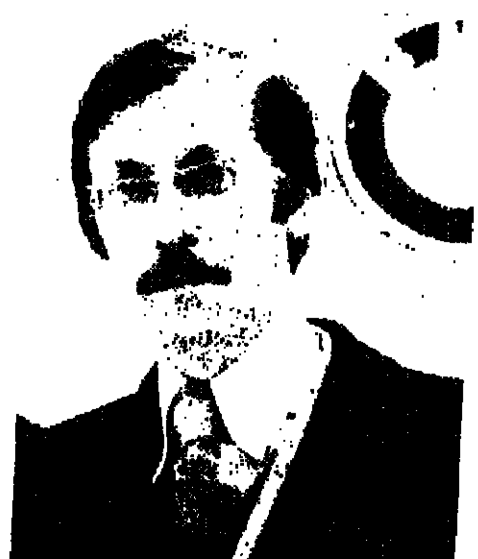
His aim was to ensure a maximum of comfort and safety on the road. Nowadays life is so fraught with stress that driving must offer a modicum of relaxation.

The "skin" of the turbo model, with rubber concertina zones, is smooth and harmonious. The car is rounded, brightly coloured, dynamic and perhaps a little sensual but not, by any stretch of the imagination, aggressive.

At the unveiling of the new BMW stylist Bracq quoted his former boss Wilfert: "Not only fashion should be predominant in body design but functional form. In the final analysis what is technically the *right* answer is always attractive."

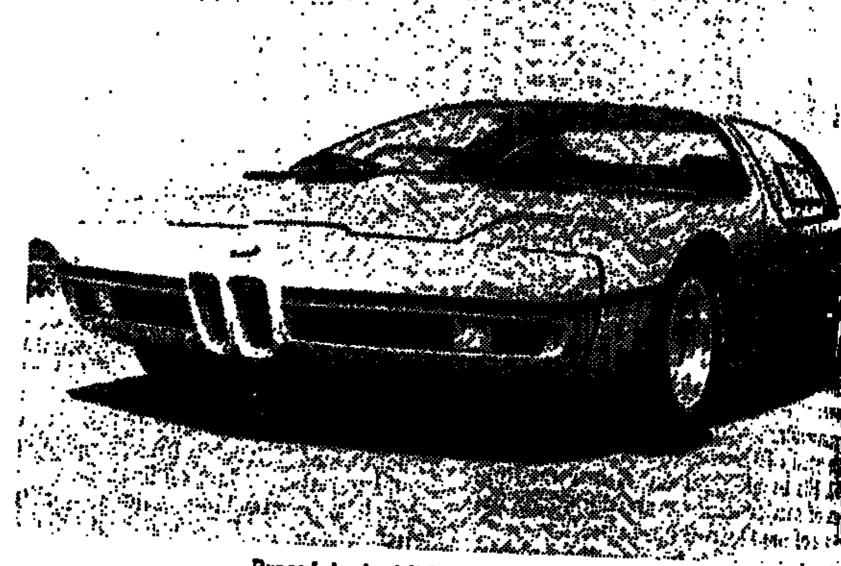
Eberhard Seifert

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 2 August 1973)



Paul Bracq

(Photo: Seifert)



Bracq's brainchild the turbo BMW special

(Photo: ...)

Success with a battery-run two-wheeler

Success at last. Instead of spluttering, revving up with a noise like machine-gun fire and leaving behind a trail of stench and pollution, the battery-powered mofa cruises quietly around town and packs punch when needed too.

This is part of the Solo sales pitch for the Electra, a power-assisted two-wheeler that is battery-run and has been in action to bear the manufacturers' claims for the past three months.

So the battery-run motorcycle is a fact. Might the end of the plaintive to powerful, yet above all noisy accompaniment of the current two-wheeler boom be in sight?

Environmental conservationists have for years harboured hopes of electric power proving a competitive successor to the combustion engine for motor vehicles. Motor manufacturers, not to mention battery firms and power utilities, have been experimenting with the idea for years too.

In 1967 Bosch unveiled a small car converted to electric power. BMW detailed its battery-powered model for service at last year's Munich Olympics. Volkswagen developed a battery-run delivery van.

Daimler-Benz too recently concluded an agreement with a subsidiary of Rheinisch-Westfälische Elektrizitätswerke for the delivery of thirty battery-run vans.

The Bonn Ministry of Transport has removed obstacles in the way of developments, and battery-powered vehicles can now be driven by holders of standard driving-licences and are taxed far less ferociously than they used to be.

Little real progress need be expected, however, until such time as a breakthrough is achieved in battery design. As yet only lead batteries do the job properly, but they are far too heavy and much too expensive. The Solo mofa is a case in point. It is as yet unique, although Quelle, the mailorder firm, marketed a similar model also manufactured by Solo, and Herkules, Kreidler and Zündapp are all busy developing models of their own. Perhaps it is time to explain the term "mofa." The word is a syllabic abbreviation of "motorised bicycle" in German and is a lightweight two- wheeler for one person with a maximum speed of 25 km/h, or fifteen miles per hour. It is, as a rule, a lightweight powered by a tiny engine, but the Solo Electro looks more like a scooter of the Lambretta, Vespa or Heinkel vintage than a mofa – and a mofa is an even more unassuming vehicle than a moped, which has a maximum legal speed of forty km/h or 25 mph.

The Electra's small wheels and well-styled battery compartment combine to make it look amusing, attractive and somehow homogeneous.

Under its centre bonnet it boasts an inordinately simple means of propulsion. A Bosch electric motor with a centrifugal clutch drives an intermediate shaft via a belt, and a chain links the shaft and the rear axle.

The engine is started by a twist of the right hand on the handlebar and the remainder of the equipment consists of a voltmeter for checking the amount of juice left in the battery and a safety device attached to the engine to ensure that it does not overheat on long uphill climbs.

The Electra Weighs 37 kilogrammes (81 lb) and the two twelve-volt batteries a further thirty kilogrammes, making 147 lb in all, which is roughly half as much again as the weight of a conventional mofa powered by a combustion engine.

Assuming that the driver weighs seventy kilos (154 lb) the total payload of what is a 500-watt engine amounts to 137 kg, or 300 lb, which represents a power to weight ratio that is feebler than a post-war power-assisted bicycle.

Certainly, the Electra's remaining vital statistics are none too impressive. It has a top speed of some 23 km/h, or fourteen and a half miles per hour, but uphill work or a headwind are sufficient to cut back this speed to fifteen km/h, or less than ten miles per hour.

Mind you, the Electra can take

Continued on page 14



Electra's battery-driven scooter

(Photo: Gesche-M. Cordes)

■ SCIENCE

Schickard - computer inventor 350 years ago

Wilhelm Schickard (1592-1635), born in Herrenberg, near Böblingen, Stutgart, held the chair of biblical languages at Tübingen University and developed his computer as a sideline.

Schickard was an all-round genius: a linguist, an astronomer, a geographer, a draughtsman, an engraver and a painter. He was also a gifted mathematician and took over the chair of mathematics and astronomy at Tübingen when his own teacher died.

His computer was no more than a minor detail of his comprehensive studies, which resulted in linguistic and astronomic publications, the development of astronomic and geodetic instruments and the first survey of Württemberg according to cartographic methods of his own.

To judge by his correspondence the computer must have resulted from his contacts with the Scottish mathematician John Napier and the German astronomer Johannes Kepler.

The original computer came to grief in the course of the Thirty Years' War but by a fortunate coincidence the plans and a number of Schickard's notes presumably intended for the mechanic who built the machine were discovered in the fifties. With the aid of these finds a number of Schickard specialists, prominent among their number the Tübingen philosopher Bruno von Freytag-Löringhoff, succeeded in completely reconstructing the Renaissance computer in all its functions.

Schickard's computer is now on display at Munich's Deutsches Museum, at the Stuttgart Kepler Museum and at Herrenberg and Tübingen. The models are a working reconstruction of the first computer mentioned in the annals of history. From the start it performed all four basic mathematical operations, imaginatively combining Napier's slide rule and an addition device.

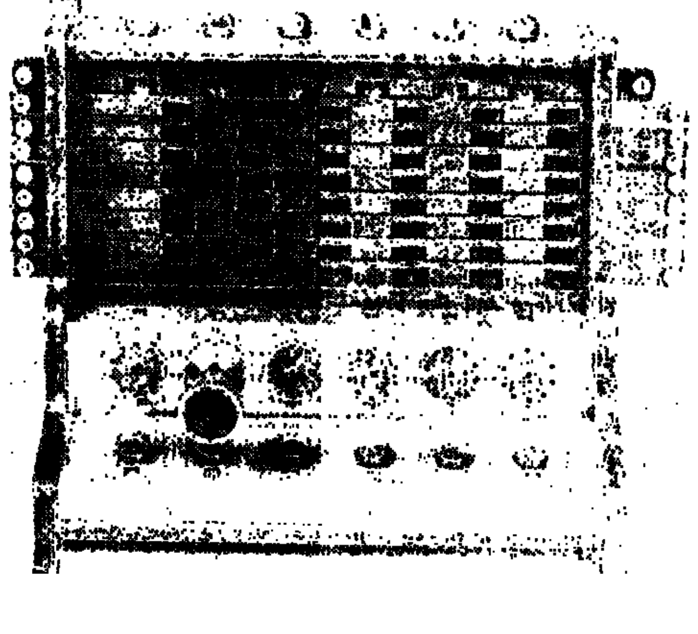
It was the first machine to incorporate the decimal mechanism that formed the basis of all subsequent mechanical devices. The milometer of a motor-car still uses this ten-cog wheel principle.

Multiplication and division work along different lines. Schickard engraved the multiplication tables on each of six cylinders, one for each decimal point. The multiplicand was set by turning the cylinders. The result could be read off surprisingly easily with the aid of nine horizontal cursors.

Schickard's computer was something entirely new, combining the decimal wheel and automatic carrying-forward. But his life and work were overshadowed by the Thirty Years' War. He died of the plague and his machine vanished.

The idea of the decimal wheel was rediscovered in Paris, which had not been shaken by the war and was consequently in a better position to foster the arts and sciences than any other major Continental city, by Blaise Pascal. Subsequent developments have led directly to today's computers.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 31 July 1973)



A reconstruction of Schikard's computer

(Photo: IBM)

Tiredness peak

Electronencephalogramme tests indicate that motorists driving long distances reach their initial tiredness peak after three and a half hours at the wheel. The trials were conducted at St John's, Dortmund.

Medical specialists sound a warning note. This peak is reached at a time when most motorists still feel themselves to be in full working order, as it were. A majority of the 51 motorists who volunteered to take part in the trials felt that their first tiredness peak was not reached until they had been at the wheel for five hours or so.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 5 August 1973)

4 million offenders

At the end of March 3,770,000 traffic offenders from the Federal Republic and West Berlin were on the books of the Flensburg motor vehicle registration office, which keeps tabs on the German equivalent of licence endorsements.

89.9 per cent of them had one or two entries (corresponding to offences for which fines of fifty Marks or more are imposed). These occasional offenders amounted to a total of 3,390,000 drivers.

Nine and a half per cent, or 357,000 motorists, had three to six bookings on their file cards and 0.6 per cent, or 21,000, seven and more offences to their names.

The number of motorists on file for traffic offences was some 20,000, or half a per cent, down on the figure twelve months previously.

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 1 August 1973)

■ THE ARTS

Swabian art exhibition in Augsburg

Augsburg has organised an exhibition of early Swabian art to mark the thousandth anniversary of the death of St Ulrich, the patron saint of the bishopric established in the city.

The exhition -- entitled *Suevia sacra* -- is the first completely devoted to mediaeval Swabian art. This past neglect may be due to history. Swabia was partitioned as early as 1268 between territories belonging to four present-day States -- Baden-Württemberg and Bavaria in what is now the Federal Republic, Vorarlberg in Austria, German-speaking Switzerland and Alsace, now French.

Another reason is the lack of any capital to represent the area and the almost complete lack of awareness on the part of the various populations of their common past.

The scope covered by the exhibition has been deliberately restricted, Dr Bruno Bushart, head of Augsburg art gallery, states. Visitors are able to see almost 250 works made of wood, stone and bone, book illustrations, painted glass, bronzes, textiles and examples of the goldsmith's and glass-blower's trade of the seventh to mid-thirteenth century.

There is also a collection of photographs providing a survey of the architecture, decoration, wall-paintings and monuments of that age. But the focal point of the exhibition is the art produced in the two bishop's seats of Augsburg and Konstanz and the monasteries at St Gallen, Reichenau, Hirsau, Zwiefalten and Weingarten.

Although most of the exhibits chosen come from the central Alemannic and Swabian areas what used to be the Duchy of Swabia the organisers did not find it easy to provide a definition of the specifically Swabian art forms.

But they did manage from the very outset to underline Augsburg's leading role by contrasting items from the city with articles from the other centres of production.

The most important exhibits are Otto III's collection of scriptures from the Reichenau workshop, the prophets' windows from Augsburg Cathedral, the Grosskomburg altar-piece and the Freudenstadt pulpit which, as the catalogue states, is unique as a work of twelfth-century European sculpture. Unfortunately they are all contained in glass cases.

Because of the mystery surrounding their manufacture and stylistic origins the three gold disks from Constance Minster take up a central position in the section of the exhibition devoted to the work of goldsmiths.

The largest of the disks is almost two metres in diameter and hung on the outside gable of the chancel until 1924. The glint as the sun struck it could be seen from Meersburg on the opposite bank of Lake Constance.

It can only be regretted that these gold disks, like the majestic crucifixion group from Ursberg, are exhibited against a dark red background in the middle of the large Renaissance Chamber in Augsburg Town Hall.

The mediaeval intellect that this arrangement was obviously meant to illustrate is thereby divided up into its irrelevant components and the chamber itself is robbed of its architectural unity.

Thanks to the cooperation of the large State and private libraries in the area the organisers of the exhibition were able to present a broad survey of the book illustrations executed at the libraries of the largest Swabian monasteries. Unfortunately a good deal has been lost -- secularisation was only one cause.

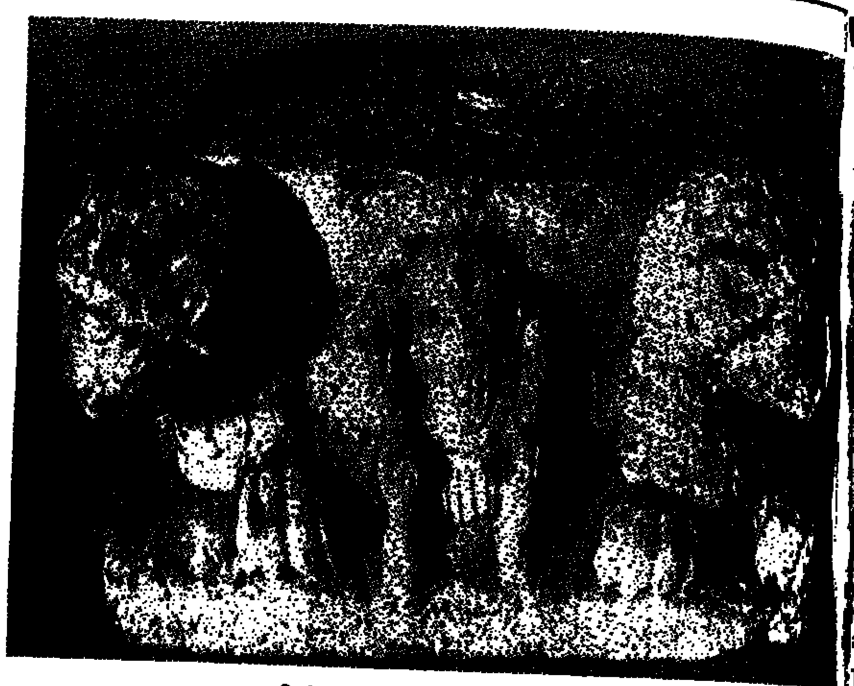
Thanks to the generosity of the Munich State Library visitors are able to see the Reichenau gospels, written at the end of the tenth century at the behest of the young Kaiser Otto III.

The manuscript marks the climax of the Reichenau school of painting and is one of the most important artistic manuscripts of the Middle Ages. Unfortunately the Reichenau gospels, like the rest of the manuscripts, are exhibited in such a poorly lit room that anyone who is not a specialist will continue on his way unimpressed. The topical subject of restoring works of art damaged by their environment is raised almost automatically in the glass-painting section. After the uncertain fate the Romanesque prophets' windows of Augsburg Cathedral had roused passions for a number of years, they had returned from the restoration workshops just in time for the exhibition where they could be studied from close up for the first time. The are considered to be the oldest known series of glass paintings still to be found in their place of origin.

Elisabeth Friedrich
(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 27 July 1973)



Reading desk from Freudenstadt



Column base from Marktoberdorf (Photos: ...)

The intimate Käthe Kollwitz exhibited in Cologne

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Henri Rousseau once said: "If a ruler wants war a mother should go to him and forbid it him." Käthe Kollwitz, the artist and sculptress, was a mother of this type. Artist Werner Held described her as miracle of maternity.

The ideology of objectivity that the age of technology is imposing on life and the arts to an ever-increasing extent makes a figure like Kollwitz -- and a description like Held's -- appear hardly endurable today.

For this reason, if for no other, it is remarkable that two exhibitions are currently devoted to her. Her graphical works can be seen in Frankfurt Kunstverein and Cologne's Wallraf-Richartz Museum has for the first time exhibited a private collection of her drawings donated in the form of a long-term loan as far back as 1967.

The sentiment contained in many of her drawings often runs contrary to the ascetcism and distance of the aesthetic form. Her *Kindergericht* of 1925 is a moving appeal for sympathy as is her *Einsame Eltern vor dem Weihnachtsbaum* (Lonely Parents before the Christmas Tree).

But we must not oversimplify the issue. Käthe Kollwitz' emotional commitment to the weak and suffering is not old-fashioned just because social problems are today considered and attacked in abstract terms. Though much-reviled, emotionalism is still required if these problems are to be brought home to people. That was Käthe Kollwitz' main aim. She wanted to establish a new sense of understanding between artists and the populace. She tried to express herself in popular fashion while remaining artistic. That at any rate was her comment on the "pictures of misery" she draw for the periodical *Simplizissimus*. Käthe Kollwitz is surprisingly up-to-date when we remember this artistic and social commitment and her early fo... that the abstract tendencies of Expressionism would in the long term be repl... by a more realistic form of art.

The drawings contained in ... exhibition at Cologne reveal Ko... more as a private individual than a per... with political commitment. They incl... self-portraits, sketches of her son... and Peter (Peter was killed in the ... World War) and preliminary studies ... her later series of graphic works. De... such as heads or hands are encount... time and again.

The catalogue of Kollwitz' comp... works lists 1,317 drawings. A ... hundred of her more than two th... drawings were destroyed during ... Second World War.

Seen in this light, Cologne posses... modest though absolutely representa... collection. It can only be hoped th... these works will not disappear irre... vably into the archives once ... exhibition is over.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 27 July 1973)



Käthe Kollwitz' *Deutschland Kinder hungern* drawn in 1924

■ OPERA

Bayreuth 1973 relies on tried-and-tested productions

Handelsblatt
DEUTSCHE WIRTSCHAFTSZEITUNG

Bayreuth Wagner Festival 1973 is full of reprises. The reason for limiting this year's Festival to the outstanding productions of years gone by is, in the main, the strictures of finances.

The *Meistersinger* will be the 1968 Wolfgang Wagner production, and Wolfgang Wagner's *Ring* will be performed twice. There will also be a last chance to see Wieland Wagner's production of *Parsifal* under the direction of Peter Lehmann.

In May this year the Bayreuth Festival ceased to be a family affair. Management of the Festival Concert Hall, Haus Wahnfried and the Wagner Archives was taken over by the Richard Wagner Foundation. But the organisation of the Festival will as a general rule be in the hands of a descendant of the composer.

Now that the Festival is no longer a private affair it is obvious that the organiser must operate with much tighter purse-strings than in the past. His responsibilities will not just be to himself and the Friends of Bayreuth, but, to a much greater extent, to the state of Bavaria and the government.

The 1973 Festival budget is 6,700,000 Marks, of which Bonn and Bavaria are each providing 880,000 Marks. With this money and the remaining five million that will be raised by the sale of tickets and the donations of patrons of the arts Bayreuth should still economically remain at the top of the tree where European festivals are concerned.

The restrictions Wagner's grandson Wolfgang is imposing this year are necessitated by thoughts of the 1976 Festival Jubilee year. To mark the hundredth Bayreuth there will be a new production of *Der Ring des Nibelungen*. And to take the strain on the finances that year it is necessary to produce the 1973 to 1975 Festivals as cheaply as possible.

Economically speaking the reprise of old productions is an accepted method of cutting down expenses, especially in these days when artists fees and staff wages are soaring.

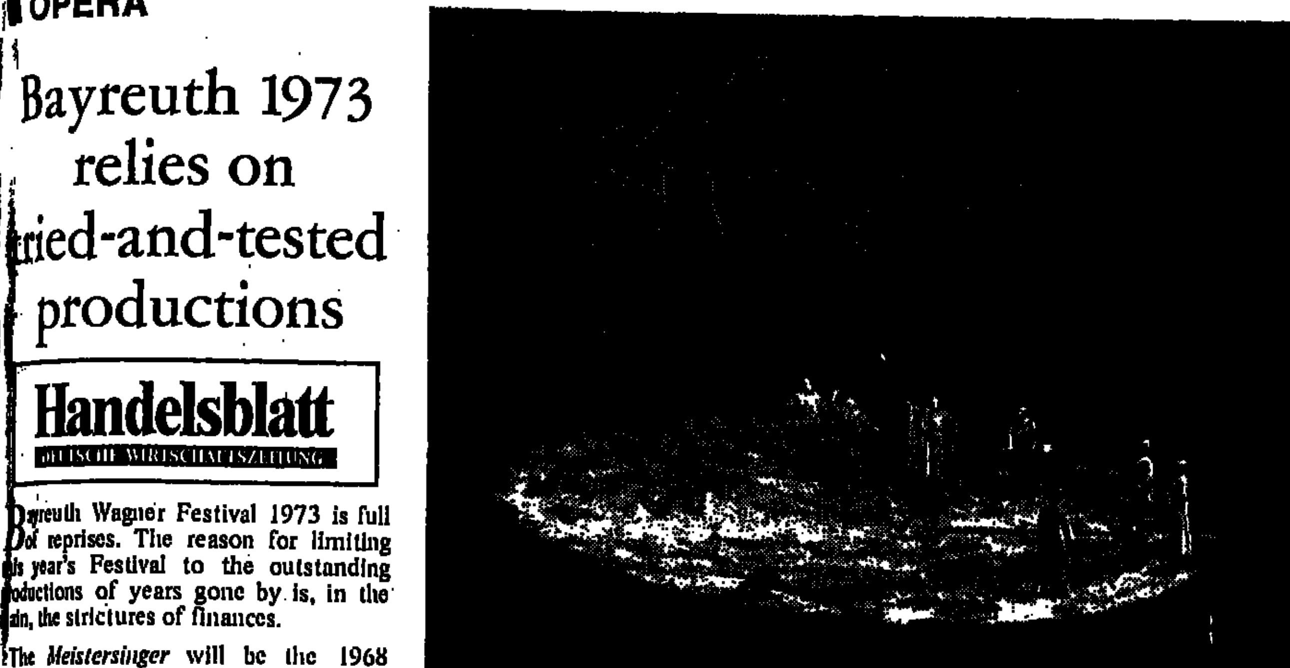
But resorting to the tried-and-tested is not tantamount to production of an artistically barren festival. Among the colourful events of this retrospective Festival will be the new-cast production of *Meistersinger*.

The young ideal couple from the *Lohengrin* of the past two years. Hannelore Bode and René Kollo, are making their Bayreuth debut as Eva and Stolzing. Silvio Varviso is the new conductor for this production.

The Götz Friedrich production of *Tannhäuser* is on the programme nine times in all. This is the most interesting production of this year's Festival. Adding to its popularity are the "desertion of the Republic" by its East Berlin director and the contradictory critics the production has received in past years. As if that were not enough there are the aspersions cast by dyed-in-the-wool Wagnerians that this is an instance of Marxist thought being smuggled into Bayreuth!

We hear that Götz Friedrich has not subjected his work as director to any far-reaching changes. But there are signs that the Bayreuth regulars are being catered for to a greater extent this year, reflected in costume changes. In 1972 the attendants at the Wartburg song festival were said to be reminiscent of Storm Troopers, and in the closing scene the chorus in its blue working clothes was taken by some to be a throwback to the GDR "workers choruses"!

(Handelsblatt, 25 July 1973)



A scene from Bayreuth's *Rheingold*
(Photo: Festpsiele Bayreuth/Wilhelm Rauh)



A scene from Eutin's *Carmen* (Photo: Matthias Macovec)

Original Bizet *Carmen* at Eutin Festival

Carmen opened the 23rd season of the Eutin Festival in north Germany's lake district. But Festival organiser Ulrich Wenk had a surprise in store, producing the original version with passages of spoken dialogue instead of the Ernest Guiraud version with orchestrally accompanied recitative.

The Guiraud version had been produced before at Eutin in 1962 and 1967, on the open-air stage in the park at the old prince-bishops' chateau with its almost perfect acoustics but complete dependence on clement weather.

Stylistically the original Bizet version is more sober. It was given its first ever German production by Walter Felsenstein and Otto Klemperer in 1949 at the Komische Oper in East Berlin. This was a bold experiment and it came off. The human tragedy and the gripping realism of this fate drama really became clearly outlined in the original version.

Wenk achieved a similar success. The production was far removed from conventional operatic pathos. All the multifarious facets of the tragedy of passionate entanglements came to light.

The costumery was purposefully sparse, while Michael Tietjens' scenery was rich with images with the arena outlined as the "battleground of erotic passions".

The cast was mainly young but lived up to the demands of the production to a surprisingly high degree.

Hanna Schwarz in the title role in particular was excellent with a voice that had plenty in reserve, an ability to put across subtleties and a skill at acting that ranged from roguish coquettishness and flattering seduction to cutting scorn and her fateful faithlessness.

Any shortcomings can easily be forgiven with such a young artiste playing the demanding role of Carmen for the first time.

Her best moments are in the scenes with Don José, sung by Helmut Meutsch, who expresses the character's inner torment with passionate intensity and develops the role nobly with his cultivated tenor voice, without once running the risk of becoming hammy.

Tamara Hert sang the role of Micaela beautifully, purely and without false sentimentality. Wolfgang Schön's Escamillo was convincing more for the light thrown on the character by his substantial baritone than by the rather conventional nature of his acting.

Heinz Joachim
(Die Welt, 18 July 1973)

Katja Mann, Thomas' widow, turns 90

Katja Mann, the soul mate of Thomas Mann through many years of marriage, was 90 on 24 July this year. She celebrated her birthday at her home in Kilchberg, Switzerland. She was at the side of the great writer for more than fifty years. And if Thomas Mann had lived he would have been one hundred on 6 June 1975.

Annette Kolb called Katja Mann "an oriental princess". She is the daughter of the Munich Professor of Mathematics Alfred Pringsheim and his wife Hedwig.

Her maternal grandparents were Ernst Dohm, one of the founders of the satirical magazine *Kladderadatsch*, and his writer wife Hedwig.

Katja Pringsheim's extraordinary beauty is preserved in the portraits by Franz von Lenbach and F.A. von Kaulbach. Her early years were spent in her father's art-filled mansion with her four brothers.

She was the first girl in Munich to pass the *Abitur*. Having done so she then studied mathematics under her father's tutelage, and physics under Röntgen.

In February 1905 she married the shy and serious Thomas Mann, who was not comfortable in his in-laws' milleu, but who had already won literary fame with his novel *Buddenbrooks*.

In *Königliche Hoheit* he created a unique literary monument to his wife who became Imma Spoelmann.

She soon became the focal point in a rapidly growing family. "Mielein" was a calming influence in the hectic hubbub of family life. "Tommy" was the head of the family, but Katja made it her job to screen him from the troubles of everyday life so that his genius could develop.



Katja Mann
(Photo: S. Fischer Verlag)

After Thomas Mann's death Katja agreed with their children that all his writings, the furniture from his study and his library should be given to the Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule in Zürich.

The Thomas Mann archives are now housed in an old patrician villa near the University, the so-called Bodmerhaus. This has become the focal point for research into Thomas Mann's writings and his life.

At 90 Katja Mann enjoys good health and a fine memory. She has given many scholars and researchers valuable assistance in their studies of her husband's work.

Hans-Otto Mayer
(Handelsblatt, 24 July 1973)

■ **MEDICINE**

Chronobiology congress in Hanover

New developments were discussed at the International Chronobiology Congress held in Hanover, information that should prove of use both in diagnosis and therapy. Forty years ago psychosomatics specialist Arthur Jores attacked the "three times a day" remedies commonly prescribed by doctors.

The same old attacks plus a good deal of new information were heard when he attended the Chronobiology Congress in the lecture hall of Hanover Medical College.

Rhythm research once used to be paramount in the German-speaking world with researchers like Aschoff, Bünning, Jores and Menzel. The main activities in this sector have now switched to the United States. In Minneapolis Franz Halberg and his school are investigating the temporally-induced differences in the life cycle of Man, animals and plants.

This is a good definition of chronobiology, a subject of research that has still not achieved its breakthrough, despite the efforts of some committed pioneers in this sector, and still has to reconcile itself with its role on the periphery of medical science.

Rhythm research still appears to suffer from old ideas such as Wilhelm Fliess' biorhythmics and semi-philosophic theories which tend to be more speculative than realistic.

However much Halberg stresses the pragmatic character of his discipline and points out that measurement, statistics and exact observation play a major role, the old rather cock-eyed ideas still creep in from time to time, especially where relative outsiders to the science are concerned.

This must be especially regretted in the case of chronobiology as the science provides an important basis for discovering better methods of medical diagnosis and treatment.

The congress in Hanover was organised by anatomist Heinz von Mayersbach and

Süddeutsche Zeitung

it revealed the broad range of chronobiological research that is being conducted by a relatively small number of researchers.

Most attention is paid to what are termed the circadian rhythms (from the Latin *circa* about and *dies* day) – biological processes that occur in approximately 24-hour cycles.

Chronobiology also deals with cycles occurring over shorter or longer periods. The pulse, respiration, blood pressure and a number of other processes involving the blood stream often vary according to the time of day.

Researchers at automated hospital laboratories have been able to analyse a large number of samples and confirm the validity of this theory.

Determining norms to provide a yardstick for healthy or sick conditions poses problems. There is for example the latitude of error depending solely on the person taking blood samples from a patient.

Five different persons took blood samples from 109 soldiers during an experiment conducted in Hanover. The latitude of error was evident. Apart from the fluctuations in the daily cycle, the influence of the medical staff was obvious.

As a result of the stress induced by having to give blood the groups of guinea-pigs diverged from the norm, sometimes wildly, especially where the measurement of glucose content and that of various enzymes were concerned. Even laymen would distrust any diagnosis made on the basis of this data.

Knowledge of rhythmic fluctuations can be of decisive importance when passing judgement on laboratory findings in acute cases. The coagulation rate of an emergency patient admitted at night will normally have risen to three times that of the day time rate.

It is absolutely normal for blood to contain a large number of white corpuscles during the late evening though this condition suggests something more disturbing during the daytime.

Halberg also pointed out a number of years ago that the amount of adrenalin in the blood can, over a short period of time, reach such a high or low level that the patient may be thought to have serious complaints involving the over-production or under-production of this hormone (Morbus Cushing or Morbus Addison).

Treatment with cortisone substances must therefore take account of these periodical fluctuations. Instead of prescribing cortisone three times a day, doctors should only allow their patients a dose once a day. Several of this country's leading rheumatologists have stressed this in recent months.

Similar fluctuations in the field of chronopharmacology and chronotoxology have been observed with other organic substances and medicaments. They are normally linked closely with the rhythmic chemical processes of the liver.

The liver, described as the body's chemical factory, is known to produce a large number of the elements the body needs to decompose its own and alien substances.

But it only carries out a few of its duties at any one time and works instead according to a precise timetable. This can be seen from the varying amounts of nucleic acids, enzymes, glycogen, gallic acid and detoxicants in the organism at different times of the day.

These fluctuations dependent on the functioning of the liver and other organs explain why the human organism reacts in a different fashion to specific medicaments at various times of the day.

Prescribing medicine to be taken three times a day often runs contrary to the biological clock. But taking a dose of medicine at the right time can increase its effectivity and inhibit nearly all undesirable side-effects.

Midnight anti-histamines

This is true for instance in the case of the anti-histamines prescribed for asthma sufferers. Chronobiologists have discovered that the most effective form of treatment is to prescribe a dose at around midnight.

Halberg and his colleagues are currently drawing up new guidelines for treating high blood pressure with the lessons of chronobiology in mind. It must be remembered that excessively high blood pressure drops to a more normal level during the evening, obviating the need for medicaments at this time of day.

Helmut Künkel, the Hanover neurophysiologist, has discovered periodical fluctuations in the susceptibility of patients to epileptic fits and as a result drawn up an improved course of treatment based on chronobiology.

Though the field covered by chronobiology is large, there are few indications of its discoveries' being utilised in practice. The use of chronobiological findings in the fight against cancer is still a thing of the future.

Von Mayersbach has researched the rhythm of nucleic acid synthesis on which the partition and re-formation of cells depends and suggested ways of synchronising treatment to this cycle.

Haematologists have already turned to chronobiology in their treatment of leukaemia. Chronobiological experiments have also been conducted on animals in the case of fixed tumours, especially where the immunological treatment of them is concerned.

The importance of the findings cannot be appraised today. Results of experiments in these sectors and other branches of chronobiology can only be utilised when research teams from the various disciplines approaching the same problem from different angles decide to cooperate.

Wilhelm Girstenbrey

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 30 July 1973)

Gout on the increase

Gout retains its sad reputation of being one of the most common diseases in Western industrial nations alongside diabetes. Of every thousand illnesses registered in 1948 only one or two were cases of gout. The figure has now risen to cover one to two per cent of the population.

Gout is continuing to run riot. Professor Mertz of Freiburg University, one of the Federal Republic's leading gout specialists, said at the Diagnostics Congress in Düsseldorf that males contracted gout on average twenty years earlier than in the past. It is no longer the fity- and sixty-year-olds who are the most common sufferers but the 25 to 35 age group.

One remarkable feature, according to Mertz, is that gout is particularly common among persons combining above-average intelligence with above-average energy, restless activity and ascent into higher social levels with the increased consumption of luxuries this involves.

Early diagnosis is of decisive importance, Professor Mertz claims, as only then can doctors prevent the damage to health that results. A pharmaceutical firm in Mannheim has developed a simple new colour test which will trace gout in a patient before he realises he is suffering from the disease.

(Münchner Merkur, 1 August 1973)

One million suffer from psoriasis

One million people in the Federal Republic suffer from psoriasis. Eczema is the only skin disease that is more widespread, according to an article in *Deutsches Ärzteblatt* by dermatologists Dr Stefan Lukacs and Professor Otto Braunfalco of Munich University. Psoriasis is thus as widespread as diabetes.

It is, they explain, a hereditary complaint but whether or not it is transmitted from one generation to the next depends on a number of factors. Among young people girls are more prone to psoriasis than boys. Among adults both sexes are equally liable to contract it.

According to the two specialists the most frequent causes of the disease are injuries to the skin, mechanical irritants, infectious diseases and certain turning points in physical development.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 20 July 1973)

People with heart troubles form a club

The recently-established Combat Heart Attacks Group has tried to attract public attention to its existence for the first time by organising a "patients' congress" in Munich.

A number of patients who have survived heart attacks took part in discussions with doctors and researchers, gained information at a small diet and pharmaceutics exhibition – arranged by the appropriate industries – and talked to each other about past medical histories.

Exchanges of this sort are the main purpose of the group alongside mutual aid in both word and deed. "There is a dangerous gap here in the treatment of patients," group head Günther Hettwer comments.

"Medicine has so far not paid enough attention to the problem and is probably in no position to fill this gap. Once he is discharged from hospital the heart patient is largely left to his own devices. He is alone with his fear," he explains.

Hettwer, 45, speaks from his own experience as he had a serious heart attack in March 1972. He felt relatively secure at the intensive care unit of Munich University Hospital, despite the fact that his condition was still critical.

His transfer to a general ward came as a great shock and it was even worse when he was discharged. He had been told a number of rules about what he should and should not do but lying in bed at night he would feel his pains increase and with them his fear.

"The fear eats into you," he states. "You don't want to alarm your family and you rarely take the family doctor fully into your confidence." Family doctors simply do not have time for providing their patients with psychological care.

But ridding a patient of his fear is one of the most important factors in recovery. The mental strain caused by weeks or even months of torment can doubtlessly lead to a second heart attack.

When discussing his case with other people who had suffered heart attacks Hettwer hit upon the idea of setting up the new common interest group. "Above all we plan to give patients mental comfort in the process of rehabilitation and give them confidence in their recuperative powers," he states. A relapse can be prevented in fifty per cent of cases if the patient cooperates and lives according to the rules set out, he comments.

As head of the group, Hettwer has burdened himself with a good deal of additional work over and above his job. He is a mechanical engineer. He receives visitors to his flat every day.

The group is still small and its membership is just under 150. But Hettwer hopes that people in cities other than Munich will follow his example and set up similar organisations.

The Munich group has already attracted the support of doctors, especially heart specialists. The medical chambers and the Upper Bavaria medical insurance bureau also welcome the experiment.

"But more broadly-based cooperation with hospitals, research clinics and rehabilitation centres will only prove feasible if we are strong in number and represented throughout the Federal Republic," Hettwer points out.

Recent Unesco statistics for the second quarter of 1973 reveal that 5? per cent of all deaths in the Federal Republic result from disorders of the heart or circulation. This is the highest rate in the world and puts us well ahead of France, which is in second place.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 20 July 1973)

■ **EDUCATION**

Do-as-you-please experiment at Hildesheim school

Pupils at the Robert Bosch Comprehensive School in Hildesheim squatted in the school playground and painted faces bright colours. They played table tennis during classes, swarmed into the surrounding countryside to tape bird-songs, built model aeroplanes, dyed school overalls in overflowing wash-tubs or experimented with test-tubes and English vocabulary.

They took part in discussions, drew comic strips and made a film from them, made articles of furniture, sold ice cream, studied the problems of aerodynamics and looked forward to the next day at school as soon as they went home.

The pupils were being allowed to do exactly what they wanted during an education week. Teachers at the school – which only caters for children in classes five to eight – wanted to give them the opportunity of arranging their own lessons and dealing intensively with their own main interests over a longer period of time without any outside influences in the form of academic pressure, end-of-lesson bells or the need to switch to other subjects. The teachers assumed the role of aide-de-camps. They helped when help was needed but otherwise allowed pupils the freedom to do as they saw fit.

A spokesman for the school claimed that the outcome of the experiment had proved surprisingly successful after only three days. The pupils displayed greater concentration and enthusiasm than was normally the case. Their performance was also considerably higher than normal, he stated.

The education week was based on a programme carfully peiced together by the teachers. Each teacher – with an average age of 32 – offered a specific range of subjects after talking the matter over with his pupils.

Whatever school year they were in, pupils had the opportunity of choosing between eight different teachers and courses. No teacher had more than fifteen pupils in his class. Intensive work in small groups was therefore guaranteed from the very outset.

Pupils in their fifth year had the choice of learning how to construct an electric motor, planning a holiday trip, dabbling in pop-art, competing in a table-tennis tournament, taking part in amateur dramatics, reading and acting scenes in English, studying Egyptian history, drawing up play programmes to encourage social conduct or building a model railway.

Once a pupil had chosen a subject he had to stick with it during the whole week. But a school spokesman stated that this ruling posed no problems during the period of the experiment.

The noise and bustle confronting visitors to the school during the education week provided fresh ammunition for those critics who look upon comprehensive schools as a breeding ground of indiscipline.

But the teachers taking part in the experiment were not bothered by this. They did not aim at perfection, their spokesman claimed, and they had reckoned with set-backs. The only thing they demand form their critics is a modicum of indulgence while they conduct their experiments.

The education authorities in Hildesheim will analyse the results of the education week and decide whether it should become a permanent fixture at the comprehensive school and be repeated annually. The pupils at least will have no objections.

Eyke Yerster/dpa

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 19 July 1973)

School building programme must be rationalised

Aproximately 8,700 schools were built in the Federal Republic between 1965 and 1970 at the cost of eighteen thousand million Marks. Expenditure on school building will have to be just as high in the next few years, the Education Ministers Conference Secretariat stated recently in Bonn.

Rationalisation will be the watchword in future. The Education Ministers Conference have drawn up a list of demands aimed at the standardisation of school building. All education ministers have now approved the recommendation.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 28 July 1973)

More and more students have psychosomatic troubles

Students are tending to suffer more and more from psychosomatic diseases such as gastritis, stomach ulcers, insomnia and disorders of the heart and circulation, a Munich psychiatric advice centre for students claims.

A total of 290 students attended the centre in 1972. Difficulties in concentrating on their work or finding social contacts still play a major role. Lack of concentration is often connected with the feeling of having chosen the wrong subject or having inadequate career prospects.

Doctors at the centre diagnosed neuroses in 89 per cent of the cases. Four per cent of the students who came to the centre for advice were thought to be suffering psychoses.

Group therapy is now writ large by the students psychiatric advice centre in Munich, which has the largest student population in the Federal Republic – approximately fifty thousand. Fewer students were recommended to undergo courses of autogenic training.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 30 July 1973)

American teachers for Hamburg

Hamburg's education authority plans the continue its policy of employing American teachers. A Senate spokesman states that the first 22 teachers for the 1973-1974 school year have already arrived in the city with their families.

The teachers will take mathematics, biology and chemistry classes at the city's high schools in view of the shortage of staff in these subjects. A total of 27 new teachers in all are expected.

A group of American teachers arrived in Hamburg as early as 1971. Fourteen of them have now renewed their contracts so that city's education authority will be employing 41 American teachers when the new school year begins.

Because of the shortage of suitable staff Hamburg's education authority are also trying to recruit Swedish teachers for the city's schools.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 30 July 1973)

OUR WORLD

First newspaper by down-and-outs for down-and-outs

Already there is a forest of publications of all shapes, sizes and colours in the Federal Republic, and now another one has been added. It is a newspaper by and for the seventy homeless people at present living in an old air-raid shelter in Bremen.

Its name is *Bunker Kurier*. The initial circulation figure is 400, and even before they were printed the first 200 copies were sold out. This is the paper "by the homeless for the homeless".

The authorities, social welfare organisations and the Bremen state archives have already shown an interest in this unique publication for this country. They asked for a copy even before any of the homeless in the air-raid shelter had paid his ten Pfennigs for a copy.

The intentions of the editorial staff, consisting of six of the remaining homeless in the last Bremen air-raid shelter and two social welfare workers who specialise in the problems of the homeless, are laid out in the introduction to the first edition of the ten-page *Bunker Kurier*.

"This paper sets out to bring home to all those forced to live in establishments for the homeless, to all people interested in and involved with the homeless, as well as social welfare groups and the authorities the conditions in which those housed in air-raid shelters have to live, and to show that without difficulty many of these people could fit into a normal position in society if given the chance."

Unlike the publication in Cologne issued by the chief city councillor and the social welfare authorities *Für die obdachlose Familie* (The Homeless Family) Bremen's *Bunker Kurier* is neither edited nor censored by any authorities.

Every Monday evening there is an editorial conference to discuss the manuscripts that have been handed in and decide what is to be typed out and copied 400 times for the next issue.

The contributors to this magazine who live in the six-storey air-raid shelter in rooms without windows and a floor space of about seven square metres – 30 per cent of them alcoholics – do not pull their punches when it comes to self-criticism.

For instance an article on page four of the first issue headlined: *Unser Aushängeschild?* (Our sign)– reads: Is it really us who stand in front of the shelter every morning holding a bottle? Who is it? Look carefully. It isn't us. It's always the same ones. And have these same ones ever thought about what is happening to the others? We others have to suffer, because people think we are all like those who hang around outside in the mornings with a bottle.

The editorial staff among the homeless does not shrink from having a go at its homeless readership either: Isn't it bad enough that people in the outside world think us tramps, thieves and ne'er-do-wells? Do we have to make things worse by pinching things from each other?

In a brief editorial note the inmates of the Bremen air-raid shelter, few of whom have an income from any kind of regular work and most of whom live off social security, pensions or the few coppers they can get from begging in the city are warned: "Drink too much and you'll end up a fish."

Those whom the authorities describe as "alcoholics" and "people who drink because they are tired of life", many of whom have spent years in the shelter, cut off from daylight and with very poor artificial light, are not upset that the *Kurier* should criticise them so harshly.

Although the first issue was offered to them free they insisted on paying the Groschen for it, fearing that the monthly publication would fold up for lack of funds.

The aim of the editorial staff is not to get the other down-outs who share their fate angry at what they write in the *Bunker Kurier*, but to see that the authorities and relevant bodies take an interest in the problems of the homeless.

They hope especially that all the authorities in the state of Bremen and in Bonn who, according to the editorial staff, "have never reacted to our numerous letters" and who thus impelled them to produce a newspaper of their own, will sit up and take notice.

The down-and-outs must be quite satisfied with the reaction to their first edition. Even television reacted and brought along cameras to photograph the tiny cabins in the dark bunker where the homeless are housed.

Bunker Kurier stresses in edition No 1 that there are people in this situation who do not differ from the ordinary citizen in any way and who all have no ambition in life except to get back to a normal existence.

Claus-Werner Caro

(Die Welt, 4 August 1973)

Frankfurt lucre

Frankfurt is top of the tree, as far as high wages and salaries are concerned. According to the Federal Institute for Economic Research in Berlin the city on the Main is the best payer, followed by Cologne, Hamburg, Düsseldorf and Ludwigshafen. At the bottom of the ladder come Ansbach, Weiden, Passau and Landshut, all in Bavaria. West Berlin is twentieth.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 2 August 1973)

One in ten has a sexual hangup

One man in ten in this country s… from sexual disturbances of one … and another, Basle psychiatrist Prof… Paul Kielholz told a medical confer… in Berlin recently. Six per cent of Fede… Republic males are impotent, he add…

Impotence, he stated, is the result of … disturbance of the personality as a wh… It can be occasioned by mental, phy… and environmental factors.

According to Professor Kiel… roughly thirty per cent of Euro… women suffer from varying degr… frigidity. According to various … authorities the corresponding figure … American women is between forty … ninety per cent.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 13 July 19…)

Tenant-designed flats scheme tried in Hamburg

The most unusual project ever undertaken by the welfare housing programme in the Federal Republic has just been completed in Steilshoop, a district of Hamburg.

It is a six-storey block of flats with a total living area of 4,909 square metres in which 143 adults and 45 children will practise "urban dwelling", in other words a housing community.

The tenants of this block, intended to demonstrate the new style of living, will be in the main students. The project has been sponsored by the Hamburg Senate and the municipal building company *Saga*.

But apart from students members of diverse walks of life can be found in Gropiusring, Steilshoop: Teacher, labourer, psychologist, office worker, doctor, taxi driver, judge, soldier, journalist and businessman.

They all got together with the architect and initiator of the scheme Rolf Spille and for eighteen months they all planned how the available space was to be divided up. They took the total surface area and split it into 37 flats in which eighteen groups will live.

The size of the various flats ranges from a small one-room apartment to large apartments with over 440 square metres floor space, which will house six families. Everyone who lives in this house will have a room to himself, but the groups will have joint kitchens, shared baths and common rooms.

On average people in the Steilshoop experiment will have about 25 squ… metres to call their own. Included in … shared accommodation there is a … nursery, a "market place" on the roof … sauna and hobby rooms.

The Steilshoop experiment is desig… to re-create that extinct species "… neighbour". Modern flat-dwelling h… created a number of individuals li… above, below and to one side of ot… individuals. The Steilshoop sche… intends to make people live toget… again.

In practice this experiment in … neighbourliness will mean that stu… for example may look after a family … ten who have come from some slu… dwellings, social welfare workers will … in close contact with people who … just come out of gaol and unmar… mothers will be able to put their chil… in a nursery looked after by … neighbours while they go out to work.

Tenants will be expected to look af… the communal parts of the block of f… The administration will be in their h… and they will be expected to … democratically with all the problems … affect their new home.

Arrangements have been made to t… care of the differing salary levels of t… people who live there. Those in the upp… income ranges have agreed to put two-a… half per cent of their monthly salary in… a solidarity fund for the less well-off.

This fund will be kept separate fr… other community finances and will b… used to help those who get into fina… straits through no fault of their own. It … will also help to give large families th… opportunity to settle into the commun… ty.

Rolf Spille said: "Greater contact … communication and neighbourliness ca… not be achieved simply and solely by … orders from on high demanding that … modern building projects should be more … humane. It can only be achieved by a … scheme whereby those involved are giv… a sense of responsibility, powers of … decision and a say in development."

Chairman of the Board of *Saga* Has… Borchardt said of this experiment which … is designed to assist the progress of th… welfare housing scheme: "We shall only … be able to declare this scheme a succe… when others start building housi… communities along the lines we ha… pioneered in Steilshoop, giving tenants … large say in planning and design ri… from the start."

Saga have already stated that if … experiment should prove unsuccessful … block is so constructed that it could … converted into conventional flats or … student hostel without major expen… ture."

Gert Kistenmacher

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 27 July 197…)

Continued from page 8

gradients of up to thirteen per cent, or one in seven, in its stride.

Given favourable conditions, the batteries will cover a distance of 35 kilometres, or twenty miles. Stop-and-go traffic or gradients can reduce the Electra's radius to between twenty and 25 kilometres, or between twelve and fifteen miles.

So freshly charged batteries are sufficient for a shopping trip into town or a drive to the nearest open-air baths and back, but probably not for both. The mofa will need its batteries recharging en route – and it is quite a weight to push!

The 1.2 kilowatt hours the batteries take cost ten Pfennigs or so (or only five if you have the advantage of night tariffs). There can be no beating this value for money, particularly since electric power for propulsion purposes is not yet taxed.

This, of course, is the snag. The tax on conventional fuel is roughly two and a half times the price of the product.

The pint of petrol a conventional mofa needs to cover twenty miles or so costs,

Battery-run two-wheeler

say, roughly fifty pfennigs. This is five times more than the corresponding power needed for the Electra.

Running costs are low. The purchase price of the Electra is substantial. It costs 1,054.50 Marks, plus 38.85 Marks delivery charges ex works and 99.90 Marks for the battery-charging device, or nearly 1,200 Marks all told.

Simple conventional mofas, for example the world-famous Velo-Solex, can be bought for little more than a third of this price.

What is more, the batteries give up the ghost after being recharged 200 times or so, and a new set costs more than 300 Marks.

In view of the difference in price the remaining advantages of electric power are nothing spectacular. The Electra requires no technical knowledge whatsoever. Turn the handle and away you go.

Modern conventional mofas boast an automatic clutch but the engine still has to be started, and once it is in action it makes its generic noise and emits its charcteristic exhaust pollution.

The Electra and its counterparts emit no exhaust fumes and are virtually noiseless. They can be driven in enclosed spaces such as airport confines, factories and hospitals without risk.

Both the manufacturers and their design engineers reckon that special uses such as these are the ones for which electric power is best suited.

They do not really think in terms of competition with the conventional motorcycle, even though the statistical distance covered by a mofa in the course of a day is so short that a radius of twenty miles should prove no obstacle.

The battery-run mofa is an interesting proposition, but it demonstrates fairly convincingly that battery power has yet to reach the stage where it might represent serious competition for the combustion engine. *Stefan Woltereck*

(Die Zeit, 3 August 1973)

SPORT

New ASA records at Bad Godesberg pave the way for Belgrade

At the 85th amateur swimming championships in Bad Godesberg a new crawl ace made his mark. Seventeen-year-old Peter Nocke of Wuppertal is reckoned by the pundits to be a likely prospect for future Olympic honours.

He may only have won one national title this year – in the backstroke relay event for his local club – but he staked his claim by coming a close second to Klaus Steinbach of Aachen in the 100 and 200 metres crawl. On the final Sunday of the championships he was only two fifths of a second behind Steinbach over 100 metres.

The critics' prize for the internationally most significant achievement was won not by Steinbach, whose 53.07 seconds for the 100 metres fell just short of his record time of 52.87, nor by Werner Lampe, who won three crawl titles for the fourth time in his career, but by Gudrun Beckmann of the Saarbrücken boarding school for talented swimmers.

Gudrun's time for the 100 metres butterfly was an impressive 1 min. 4.68 sec. – in extremely bad weather too!

A week beforehand the country's amateur atheletics aces put up a poor showing at the Berlin championships, but this can hardly be said of the swimmers, who competed for an array of titles by the banks of the Rhine opposite the Siebengebirge hills. Seven new national records were set up:

- Women's 200 metres crawl. Jutta Weber (Wuppertal), 2 min. 9.75 sec.
- Women's 400 metres backstroke: Uta Schütz, 5 min. 17.66 sec.
- Women's 4 x 100 metres crawl: Max Ritter School, Saarbrücken in 4 min. 7.04 sec.
- Women's 4 x 100 metres backstroke: Wasserfreunde Wuppertal in 4 min. 33.31 sec.
- Men's 4 x 100 metres crawl: Wasserfreunde Wuppertal in 3 min. 38.13 sec.
- Men's 4 x 100 metres backstroke: Wuppertal again in 4 min. 4.08 sec.

The most successful club was Wasserfreunde Wuppertal, with seven titles, followed by the Max Ritter School, Saarbrücken, with five titles to its credit.

In the two dozen disciplines the qualifying time for the Belgrade world championships was reached in twenty cases.

The Belgrade officials have specified tough qualifying times in order to put an end to entrants who are virtually doomed to elimination in their first heat, but now that the Bad Godesberg championships are over this country's officials are not to be too strict in nominating team members.

The selection committee are to bear in mind the chilly weather and the depressing atmosphere at a baths where there was no encouragement whatsoever from onlookers, the rain pouring down from an overcast sky.

Members of a relay team for the world championships will be entered for the individual event too, regardless whether or not they managed the qualifying time at Bad Godesberg, the selectors indicate.

They will not necessarily be also-rans at Belgrade either. This country still boasts a Werner Lampe, whose 200 metres freestyle record of 1 min. 53.99 sec. takes some beating. Lampe and his coach Gerhard Hetz are currently in Saas Fee, Switzerland, for special training.

Then there are four men capable of 1 min. 58 sec. or thereabouts for the 200 metres crawl. Lampe, Nocke and Meeuw could well make up a medal-winning relay team.

Last but not least, the men's backstroke relay team ought to do well with Walter Kusch, who won the two breaststroke finals in Bad Godesberg in times below the Belgrade qualification but is busy studying for his school-leaving certificate and for this reason is not to be entered for an individual event in the world championships.

School and university are problems that are increasingly confromting the officials of the Amateur Swimming Association. ASA President Hermann Karg of Munich has been alarmed by the number of youngsters who have quit the Saarbrücken school and is trying to find some way of ensuring university entrance for school-leavers.

Angela Steinbach, Karin Bormann and Silke Pielen, three of the country's best girl swimmers, have already left the Max Ritter School, which is a cross between a normal school and a training camp, because their prospects of university places in the Saar were nil.

"Athletes in the GDR do not have to worry about details of this kind," one official lamented. "Over there," Hermann Karg added, "training facilities are better and so is the incentive to perform well. Those who reach a certain standard can count on being allowed to travel to Western countries." In this country much is left to private initiative. Clubs, for instance, really need baths of their own and an annual budget of a million Marks like Schwimmsportfreunde Bonn before they stand a chance of spawning champions.

Jupp Müller

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 30 July 1973)

Klaus Steinbach



Uta Schütz (Photos: Werek)

Britain's Jackie Stewart wins Nürburgring Grand Prix

Jackie Stewart had a good day at the Nürburgring, winning his third German grand prix in a Tyrrell Ford before an audience of 200,000 spectators. It was his fifth Grand Prix win this season, Jack the Hair's 27th grand prix victory in the course of his career, making him the most successful grand prix driver of all time.

Stewart's stablemate Francois Cevert of France had good reason to be happy too. He passed the post only two seconds behind the ex-world champion, making the Tyrrell triumph complete.

Jacky Ickx of Belgium came third in a McLaren Ford, amply demonstrating that the bad luck that has dogged Ferrari, for whom he used to drive, is hardly attributable to his performance at the wheel.

There was a special round of applause for No. 31, Jochen Mass of Cologne, who covered the grand prix distance in his Surtees Ford for the first time ever (he was involved in the pile-up at Silverstone).

Local boy Mass came in seventh, only a few yards behind reigning world champion Emerson Fittipaldi of Brazil.

The other Federal Republic competitor, Rolf Stommelen, also of Cologne, did less well, only coming in eleventh in his Brabham. The first spectacular failure occurred in the first lap, Ronnie Peterson of Sweden, second only to Stewart in training in his black and gold Lotus, had engine failure after only six miles. Jacky Ickx, driving his McLaren for the first time in a grand prix, did his best to keep up with the first two, but by the third lap the Tyrrells were twenty seconds in the lead and their lead kept increasing. Once Niki Lauda of Austria had to give up in the second lap because of a minor accident Ickx too managed to keep a safe distance between himself and the next cars. Then, and then only, came the midfield, scrambling for battle honours.

In the local duel between Jochen Mass and Rolf Stommelen Mass soon gained the upper hand, settling in behind the Fittipaldi brothers, who kept overtaking one another.

The two leaders monotonously demonstrated the superiority of the Tyrrell Fords lap after lap. CanAm winner George Follmer of the United States experienced his third Nürburgring debacle.

In his first race on the track last April Follmer had to retire after a mishap with his 1,000-hp turbo Porsche. At his second attempt, in the marque world championship race, he wrote off a Carrera. And this time he crashed his UOP Shadow in the North Bend.

Meanwhile one of the three Brazilian entrants gratified the small band of South American spectators by setting up a new lap record. In the thirteenth lap Carlos Pace in a Surtees averaged 190.0 km/h in a time of 7 min. 11.4 sec., beating Jack Ickx's old record in a Ferrari of 7 min. 13.4 sec.

Harm Clüver

(Die Welt, 6 August 1973)



Jackie Stewart with his wife, Helen

(Photo: Wilfried Witters)